

THE KING &
HIS *Cross*

Our Compassionate Creator

Matthew 14:13–36

John 1:1–3, 14

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
All things were created through him.
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
We observed his glory.

Matthew 14

13 When Jesus heard about it, he withdrew from there by boat to a remote place to be alone. When the crowds heard this, they followed him on foot from the towns.

14 When he went ashore, he saw a large crowd, had compassion on them, and healed their sick.

Exodus 34:6

The LORD—the LORD is a compassionate
and gracious God,
slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth.

Matthew 14

15 When evening came, the disciples approached him and said, “This place is deserted, and it is already late. Send the crowds away so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

16 “They don’t need to go away,” Jesus told them. “You give them something to eat.” 17 “But we only have five loaves and two fish here,” they said to him.

“Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man’s power ends.”

--George Müller

Matthew 14

18 “Bring them here to me,” he said. 19 Then he commanded the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

Matthew 14

20 Everyone ate and was satisfied. They picked up twelve baskets full of leftover pieces. 21 Now those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Psalm 132:15–17

I will abundantly bless its food;

I will satisfy its needy with bread.

I will clothe its priests with salvation,
and its faithful people will shout for joy.

There I will make a horn grow for David;

I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.

John 6:35

“I am the bread of life,” Jesus told them. “No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again.”

Matthew 14

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 After dismissing the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Well into the night, he was there alone. 24 Meanwhile, the boat was already some distance from land, battered by the waves, because the wind was against them.

Matthew 14

25 Jesus came toward them walking on the sea very early in the morning. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost!” they said, and they cried out in fear.

27 Immediately Jesus spoke to them. “Have courage!
It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

Matthew 14

28 “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter answered him, “command me to come to you on the water.”

29 He said, “Come.”

And climbing out of the boat, Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Matthew 14

31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand,
caught hold of him, and said to him,

“You of little faith, why did you doubt?”

32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

33 Then those in the boat worshiped him and said,
“Truly you are the Son of God.”

Matthew 14

34 When they had crossed over, they came to shore at Gennesaret. 35 When the men of that place recognized him, they alerted the whole vicinity and brought to him all who were sick.

36 They begged him that they might only touch the end of his robe, and as many as touched it were healed.

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

--from *Christ our Hope in Life and Death*