Mark

The **Gospel** of the **Servant of God**

I. The *Service* of the **Servant** (1:1-10:52)

G. **His Preeminence** in **Galilee** (6:1-9:50)

1. The ***Poor*** **Reception** in **Nazareth** (6:1-6a)
2. The ***Pairing*** and **Sending** of the **Twelve** (6:7-13)
3. The ***Plight*** of **John the Baptist** (6:14-29)
4. The ***Provision*** for the **5,000** (6:30-44)
5. The ***Power*** over the **Elements** (6:45-56)
6. The ***Pointed*** **Response** concerning **Impurity** (7:1-23)
7. The ***Plea*** of the **Gentile Woman** (7:24-30)
8. The ***Powerful*** **Healing** of the **Deaf Mute** (7:31-37)

9. The ***Provision*** for the **4,000** (8:1-21)

a. A ***Remarkable*** **Provision** (8:1-10)

8 In those days, when there was again a **large crowd** and they
had **nothing to eat**, **Jesus** called **His disciples** and said to them,

2 "I feel ***compassion*** for the **people** because they have remained **with Me**
now **three days** and have **nothing to eat**.

3 If I **send** them away **hungry** to their homes, they will **faint** on the way;
and some of them have come from a **great distance**."

4 And **His disciples** answered **Him,** "Where will anyone be able
to find enough **bread** here in *this* **desolate place** to **satisfy** these people?"

5 And **He** was asking them,
"How many **loaves** do you have?" And they said, **"Seven."**

6 And He directed the people to **sit down** on the **ground**;
and taking the **seven loaves**, **He gave *thanks*** and **broke them**,
and started **giving them** to **His disciples** to **serve** to them,
and they **served them** to the people.

7 They also had a **few small fish**; and after **He** had ***blessed*** **them**,
He ordered these to be **served** as well.

8 And they **ate** and were **satisfied**; and they picked up **seven large baskets**

full of what was **left over** of the **broken pieces.**

[9] About **four thousand** were *there*; and **He sent** them **away**.

[10] And ***immediately*** **He** entered the **boat** with **His disciples**
and came to the district of **Dalmanutha.**

b. A ***Request*** for a **Sign** (8:11-13)

[11] The **Pharisees** came out and began to ***argue*** **with Him**,
seeking from **Him** a **sign** from **heaven**, to **test Him**.

[12] **Sighing deeply** in **His spirit**, **He said**, "***Why*** does this **generation** seek for a **sign**?
Truly I say to you, **no sign** will be **given** to this **generation.**"

[13] Leaving them, **He** again embarked and **went away** to the **other side**.

c. A ***Rebuke*** of the **Disciples' "Spiritual Hardness"** (8:14-21)

[14] And they had **forgotten** to **take bread**, and did not have
more than ***one loaf*** in the **boat** with them.

[15] And **He** was **giving orders** to them, saying, **"Watch out!**
Beware of the **leaven** of the **Pharisees** and the **leaven** of **Herod**."

[16] They *began* to **discuss** with **one another** *the fact* that they had **no bread**.

[17] And **Jesus**, **aware** of this, said to them,
"**Why** do you discuss *the fact* that you have **no bread**?
Do you ***not*** yet **see** or **understand**?
Do you have a **hardened heart**?

[18] HAVING **EYES**, DO YOU **NOT SEE**? AND HAVING **EARS**, DO YOU **NOT HEAR**?
And do you **not remember**,

[19] when I broke the **five loaves** for the **five thousand**, how many ***baskets***
full of **broken pieces** you **picked up**?" They said to Him, **"Twelve."**

[20] "When *I broke* the **seven** for the **four thousand**,
how many **large** ***baskets*** full of **broken pieces** did you **pick up**?"
And they said to Him, "**Seven.**"

[21] And **He** was saying to **them**, "Do you **not yet understand**?"

"Watching out" for the ***Leaven***
in **Teachings** concerning **Israel**

A. The ***Leaven*** of **Antisemitism**

Antisemitism—At its core, **antisemitism** refers to **prejudice, hatred,** or **discrimination** against **Jews**—whether directed at **individuals,** the **Jewish people,** or the **Jewish state**. Yet the **antisemitism definition** goes far ***beyond*** a dictionary entry. It describes a **relentless,** ***shape-shifting*** **hatred** that has endured for **centuries** by adapting to the **ideologies, politics**, and the **social zeitgeist** of **each era.**

From medieval **blood libels** to **racial pseudoscience** to today's efforts to **delegitimize** the **State of Israel**, the accusations ***evolve*** with the times, yet the **Jew remains** the ***eternal*** **scapegoat**. Antisemitism scholar Robert Wistrich captured this obsession, calling it both "the **longest hatred**" and "a lethal **obsession**..."

So, **what** is **antisemitism** really? It is both **ancient** and **alarmingly modern.** Cloaked first in **theology,** then in **race science**, and now in the *language* of **human rights**, it adapts to every age, yet its object of **hatred** has **never changed**: the **Jewish people**..."
(Antisemitism Definition and Meaning: A Clear Guide From **Ancient Hatred** to Its **Modern-Day Disguises**, August 25, 2025. Combat Anti-Semitism Movement)

Bible Promises concerning the **Jewish People**

Now **the LORD** said to **Abram**,
"**Go forth** from your country, and from your relatives
And from your father's house, to **the land** which **I will show you**;

And **I will** make **you** a **great nation**, and **I will bless you**,
And make **your name great**; and so you shall be **a blessing**;

And **I will bless those** who **bless you**, and the one who **curses you I will curse**.
And **in you** ***all*** the **families** of the **earth** will **be blessed**." (Genesis 12:1-3)

Thus says **the LORD**, Who gives the **sun** for **light** by **day**
And the **fixed order** of the **moon** and the **stars** for **light** by **night**,
Who **stirs up** the **sea** so that its **waves roar**;
The **LORD of hosts** is **His name**:

"If this **fixed order departs** from **before Me**," declares **the LORD**,
"Then the **offspring** of **Israel** also will **cease**
From being **a nation before Me forever**." (Jeremiah 31:35-36)

From the **standpoint** of the **gospel** they **(Israel)** are ***enemies*** for your sake,
but from the **standpoint** of ***God's*** **choice** they are **beloved** for the **sake** of the **fathers**;

for the ***gifts*** and the ***calling*** **of God** are **irrevocable**. (Romans 11:28-29)

B. The ***Leaven*** of **Anti-Zionism**

"**Zionism** is the **movement** for **self-determination** and **statehood** of the **Jewish people** in their **ancestral homeland**, the **land of Israel**. By contrast, **anti-Zionism rejects Israel's right** to ***exist*** as a **Jewish state** and **downplays** or **negates** the nearly **4,000**

-year Jewish connection to the ***land*** **of Israel**." (ADL Definition)

Bible Promises concerning the **Land of Israel**

1. **God promised** the **land of Canaan** to **Abraham** and **his descendants**

Abram took **Sarai** his wife and **Lot** his nephew, and all their possessions...
and they **set out** for the **land of Canaan**; thus they came to the **land of Canaan**...

The **LORD appeared** to **Abram** and said,
"To **your descendants I will** *give* **this land**." (Genesis 12:5, 7a)

2. **God *confirmed*** this **promise** of the **land** to **Abraham's son Isaac**

Sojourn in **this land** and **I will** be ***with you*** and **bless you**,
for to **you** and to **your descendants I will give** all these **lands**,
and I will **establish** the ***oath*** which **I swore** to your **father Abraham**. (Genesis 26:3)

3. **God *confirmed*** the **promise** of the **land of Israel** to **Jacob**

"The **land** which **I gave** to ***Abraham*** and ***Isaac***,
I will give it to **you**, and **I will give** the **land**
to **your descendants** after you."(Genesis 35:12)

4. **God prophesied His plans** for **Israel's future** *through* **His servant Jeremiah**

For behold, days are coming,' declares **the LORD**,
'when I will **restore** the **fortunes** of **My people Israel** and **Judah**.'
The LORD says, '**I will** also ***bring*** **them back** to **the land** that ***I gave***
to their **forefathers** and they shall **possess it**.'" (Jeremiah 30:3)

5. **God promised** to **restore His people** back to the **land He gave** them, a **promise** that has ***never*** **been revoked**

Behold, **days** are coming," declares **the LORD**,...
"When the mountains will drip sweet wine and all the hills will be dissolved.

"Also ***I will*** **restore** the captivity of **My people Israel**,
And they will **rebuild** the **ruined cities** and live *in them*;
They will also plant **vineyards**
and drink their wine, and make **gardens** and eat their fruit.

"***I will*** also **plant them** on **their land**,
And they will **not again** be **rooted out** from **their land**
Which I have **given them**," Says the **LORD your God**. (Amos 9:13-15)

C. The ***Leaven*** of **Replacement Theology** (supersessionism)

Replacement Theology essentially teaches that the **church** has **replaced Israel** in

God's plan. Adherents of **replacement theology** believe **the Jews** are **no longer God's *chosen* people**, and **God** does **not** have specific **future plans** for the **nation of Israel**.

Replacement theology declares that the **many promises** made to **Israel** in the **Bible** are ***fulfilled*** in the **Christian church**, **not** in **Israel**. The **prophecies** in **Scripture** concerning the **blessing** and **restoration** of **Israel** to the **Promised Land** are **spiritualized** or ***allegorized*** into **promises** of **God's blessing** for the **church**. (Excerpts taken from **Got Questions**: what is **Replacement Theology**...?)

D. The ***Leaven*** of so-called **"Social Justice"**

E. The ***Leaven*** of **Cultural Relativism**

F. The ***Leaven*** of **Media Bias** and **Slander**

Closing Comments