

Moses Called in the Air Force

Charles Swindoll, pastor of Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, Texas, author and radio preacher, tells a funny story about a 9-year-old named Danny who came bursting out of Sunday school like a stallion.

His eyes were darting in every direction as he tried to locate either mom or dad. Finally, after a quick search, he grabbed his daddy by the leg and yelled, “Man, that story of Moses and all those people crossing the Red Sea was great!”

His father looked down, smiled, and asked the boy to tell him about it.

“Well, the Israelites got out of Egypt, but Pharaoh and his army chased after them. So the Jews ran as fast as they could until they got to the Red Sea. The Egyptian army was getting closer and closer. So Moses got on his walkie-talkie and told the Israeli air force to bomb the Egyptians. While that was happening, the Israeli navy built a pontoon bridge so the people could cross over. They made it!”

By now, old dad was shocked. “Is *that* the way they taught you the story?” he asked.

“Well, not exactly,” Danny admitted, “but if I told you the way they told it to us, you’d never believe it, Dad.”

With childlike innocence the little guy put his finger on the pulse of our sophisticated adult world where cool skepticism reigns supreme. It’s more popular to operate in the black-and-white world of facts and, of course, to leave no space for the miraculous.



And so when we read the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000, some tend to focus attention on the questions, “Did it really happen?”

There have been a number of attempts to “explain” the miracle. One story says that the people were so moved by Jesus’ generosity and the generosity of the little boy that they brought forth the food they had hidden under their clothes and in their traveling pouches. This way, everyone was satisfied.

Another claim states that the story is not really talking about physical hunger, but spiritual hunger. When the small amount of food was passed around, everyone tore off a minuscule symbolic fragment (for 5,000 – really?). In this account, Jesus is said to have satisfied the thirst of the soul, not the stomach.

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Such theories say more about us than they do Jesus. If Jesus is the Son of God, and He is, then there is no question but that He performed miracles, and on a regular basis. The point of the story of feeding the 5,000 is to teach us three things:

1. Jesus is the fulfillment of biblical prophecy.
2. We are to serve at the table of the Lord.
3. We can use our abilities in service.

And that is our calling in Life Care and Century Park.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter