First Fruits First They had Forgotten to Take Bread December 1, 2023

*Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread* [Mat 16:5]

What did you overlook? When did you lose track of your phone? Neglected to check the gas? Left the grocery list? Forgot to feed the dog?

In the busyness of our lives we are easily distracted. Ironically, this leads us to a very valuable lesson. We recognize we’ve become preoccupied with superfluous details.

Yeshua uses our memory lapse to show a more sinister undercurrent. Deeper into this passage, He gives his disciples a corrective directive, “*beware the leaven of Pharisees and Sadducees*.”

His disciples take this remark literally, “*It is because we have taken no bread.*” But our Lord takes this to a whole new level, “*O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?*”

Wait right there. These men failed to see the big picture. They’re hung up on neglecting bread. Yeshua turns this into a parable. If I may paraphrase, He tells them His message is not about the bread itself, but the underlying characteristic of bread that allows it to get puffed-up – leaven.

This is the invisible threat. Yeshua wasn’t warning his disciples about lunch; He was counseling them about a greater issue — the religious spirit that was misleading His children about the very nature of God. The lesson: Just as they overlooked the bread, they overlooked the yeast.

What is the take away from this? These are days of great peril. Seek God’s Firstfruit for guidance. He came to make sure we don’t forget something important - to look beyond the surface, to discern the underlying issues, the primary danger. Bring it to light.

Our battle is far grander than we envision. We’re emissaries of the Kingdom of God. Keep the faith. Our King intentionally reveals our foe’s hidden agendas. Listen as He confronts our preoccupation with temporal, insignificant diversions. Learn to fight the fight He presents to us.