



## **NEWSCAST 15. REBELLION AGAINST ROME?**

..... Judaea had been under Roman rule since 63 B.C. At first, the Romans ruled indirectly through the Judaeen Kings — Herod and his sons.

However, in 6 A.D., Herod's son, Archelaus, was deposed for incompetence and the Romans initiated direct rule under one of their governors.

The Romans then carried out a census to assess the amount of tribute that should be paid to Rome and hostility broke out. The revolt was led by Judas the Galilean but it was quickly crushed and driven underground. This was the beginnings of the Zealot movement which had its greatest support in Galilee and to some extent accounts for the Galileans striving for a nationalistic leader and focusing their hopes on Jesus.

The feeding of the five thousand was the climax of Jesus' ministry in Galilee but it was clearly misinterpreted by the crowds who tried to make Jesus King. Jesus then left Galilee.

Although there were a variety of expectations about the nature of Messiah, the most widespread popular belief was that the Messiah would be another King David — a military leader who would defeat the Romans and restore a sovereign Jewish nation under God's rule. Jesus rejected such an idea of the Messiah as too narrow in outlook and doomed to failure. God's kingdom, he maintained, is to transcend national boundaries and is to be God's rule over the lives of men everywhere.

**Biblical references:**

**Luke Chapter 13 v.1 -5;**  
**Mark Chapter 6 v.6 – 46;**  
**Luke Chapter 9 v.1 -17;**  
**John Chapter 6 v.1 -15;**  
**Luke Chapter 4 v.1 – 13.**

