

"Calming The Storm"
Mark 4:35-41
Sunday March 29, 2020

3 Gospels record it! **Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25**

This account reveals a beautiful portrait of both the Humanity and Deity of Jesus Christ.

Why Does God Permit Storms?

- 1. So We Can Grow Spiritually.**
- 2. He Permits Storms That We Might Know Him Better.**
- 3. He Permits Storms That God Can Be Glorified Through Our Weakness.**

Thought of Our Passage: "Believers In A Storm Can Experience God's Peace Because Peace Is Found In The One Who Calms The Storm."

10 Lessons From A Storm:

Mark 4:35 On that day,

Context - Mark 4:1-34 Jesus started to teach in parables because of the multitudes that were following Him. **Mark 3:7-6:6 "The Popularity of Jesus"**
Mark 4:1-2

when evening came,
Jesus had a full day teaching

He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side."

Jesus was on the North/Western side of the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum and retreated to the Eastern side, Gerasenes. This is a distance of about 6 miles.

Why The Other Side? To Get Some Much-Needed Rest:

Jesus Had A Divine Appointment At Gerasenes: Mark 5:1-2

1. This Storm Was Initiated By Jesus:

"Let us go over to the other side."

Jesus does not say anything about it being discipline for the sins.

There Is Great Security Knowing I Have Been Obedient To God's Word: A Command: "Let us go over to the other side."

Storms Should Not Surprise Us! 1 Peter 4:12

This morning is preparation (Heads-Up) for the storms of life.

Notice with the directive of Jesus, He would be with them.

"Let us go over to the other side."

I don't know how people live without Jesus.

2. The Storm Included God's Promise:

"Go over" not "Go under." A Promise: The storm that the Christian undergoes is not more than one can bare. **1 Corinthians 10:13**

Mark 4:36 leaving the crowd,

Jesus had said what He needed to say.

they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was;

The disciples did not send a person ahead or make any special preparation.

and other boats were with Him.

Mark's Gospel is the only one that mentions these other boats following.

God Never Loses Sight Of Us! Jonah 4:11

Mark 4:37 And there arose a fierce gale of wind,

The Sea of Galilee (freshwater lake) is North to South 13 miles, East to West 8 miles and is 628 feet below sea level. It is like no other lake in the world. It is surrounded by mountains, the West and the Northwest, the mountains rise to 1500 feet. Northeast and the East, they rise to 3,000 feet, the Golan Heights. The sea sits in a bowl and the water that comes into the lake comes from hot springs but primarily from the Jordan River which flows out of Mount Herman. November to April is the season for storms. Producing waves 10 feet in size. (Cold air meets warm air.)

fierce gale of wind (storm) *"a whirlwind, a violent attack of wind, tornado"*

the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up.

The waves kept breaking on the boat, they were not able to keep up with baling out the water. Boats were about 27 X 7 ½ feet in length. (1986 Museum in Kibbutz Ginosar)

A Storm Should Provoke The Question – "Why Am I In A Storm?"

"Am I in this storm because of obedience or because of disobedience?"

- 1. Storms of Perfection** - Storms brought on by the Lord to make us more like Jesus.

Paul - He had a thorn in his flesh. **2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Acts 28:3-4**

Joseph - Pit, Prison, then Palace.

David - Was a shepherd, he was chased by Saul

2. Storms of Correction - These are brought on because of sin.

Jacob - Was nicknamed the *trickster*, was always scheming and was out schemed by Laban then finally by the Lord. **Genesis 32**

Jonah - Went through a storm because of disobedience. **Jonah 1:4**

Hebrews 12:6,11

Mark 4:38 Jesus Himself was in the stern,
Jesus was sitting in the honored guest spot.

3. In The Storm, Remember The Peace Of Jesus: **asleep on the cushion;**

Jesus Was Asleep - Jesus was physically exhausted –
a portrait of Jesus' humanity. Hebrews 4:15

Jesus Was Asleep - Jesus knew that His life was in the hands of His
Father - Acts 12:6-7

There is False Peace In The Storm: Jonah 1:4-6

4. A Storm Should Drive Us To Jesus: **and they woke Him**

Experienced fishermen, Peter, James, John and Andrew. This must have been quite a storm.

5. In A Storm, Beware Of Becoming Self-Focused:

and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

When we go through a storm, a difficult time, we can start to think of self.
we are perishing.

said to Him, "Teacher"

other Gospel's say "**Lord, Master**" No contradiction. The disciples were shouting every formula they could.

The fact that they came to Him is noteworthy.

do You not care that we are perishing?"

Literally: "*Do you not care that we are in the act of perishing?*"

The disciples rebuke Jesus! Accusing Jesus of being in the dark and not caring!

It is hard to reconcile God's love and care for us yet, allowing a life-threatening storm.

we are perishing.

We start to think of self. When Jesus' friend Lazarus died, Jesus visits his sisters, Martha and Mary. **John 11:21,32**

Matthew 10:29

Hold On To God's Word In The Storm:

Mark 4:35 "Let us go over to the other side."

6. In A Storm, We Always Have His Presence:

Jesus was right there with them in the storm.

The presence of Jesus on the boat did not keep the storm from coming! Psalm 23:4

Mark 4:39

7. When We Call On God Jesus Always Hears:

And He got up,

What woke Jesus up? the storm? It was the cry of His disciples.

1 Peter 3:12

and rebuked the wind

He the master found fault with it; Nature under submission to the creator.

and said to the sea, "Hush, be still."

"Put the muzzle on and keep it on" These are the same words that Jesus spoke to the demons **(Mark 1:25)**

8. In The Storm Look For God's Power:

And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm.

This was a double miracle.

Mark 4:40

9. Never Forget To Enlist Your Storm:

**And He said to them, "Why are you afraid?
"How cowardly you are" Fear looks at the storm!**

Do you still have no faith?"

Faith looks at the Savior! Literally *"Where is your convictions of who God is and what God can do?"*

What Good Is Faith If It Does Not Help Us In The Storms?

Matthew 7:24-27

The Disciples fear was natural but not spiritual!

Why did Jesus get in their face?

God had Commanded/Promised the disciples they would live!

Mark 4:41 They became very much afraid *"fear and reverence"*

When Isaiah had a vision of the Lord. **Isaiah 6:5; Luke 5:8**

10. A Storm Should Result In A Deep Spiritual Encounter:

said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"

Psalm 65:7

**Notice that Mark does not record the answer to the question:
"Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"**

It's very clear who Jesus is.

Application:

- 1.** God Permits Storms So That We Might Grow Spiritually. So That We Might Know Him More Deeply. So That God May Be Glorified Through Our Weakness.
- 2.** When We Encounter A Storm, It Should Lead Us To Question: Is This Storm A Result Of Obedience Or Disobedience? Is This Storm A Storm Of Correction Or A Storm Of Perfection?
- 3.** What Good Is Faith If It Does Not Help Us In The Storms? Fear Looks At The Storm, Faith Looks At The Savior.