

Mark 4:35-41 ³⁵ *And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.* ³⁶ *And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.* ³⁷ *And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.* ³⁸ *And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?* ³⁹ *And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.* ⁴⁰ *And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?* ⁴¹ *And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?*

I. Introduction

A. Location

1. Jesus finished teaching parable of the "Sower & Four Soils"
2. Jesus & His disciples on west shore of Sea of Galilee

B. Geography

1. Sea of Galilee about 6 miles wide (1/2 of width of Lake Tahoe)
2. Sea of Galilee 650 feet below sea level – gets hot often
3. In "bowl" surrounded by high mountains with cold air

II. The Sailing

A. Command of Jesus

1. Jesus asks His disciples to cross over to the other side (east side)
2. Jesus was exhausted from His ministry
3. Jesus often gave completely of Himself in teaching & healing
4. Fishing boats used sails driven by wind

B. Compliance of the disciples

1. Jesus entered boat first

Matthew 8:23 And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

2. Disciples immediately followed Him into boat to go to other side of lake

Luke 8:22 Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth.

3. Refusing to listen to inner convictions of heart

James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

C. Company followed Him (Jesus)

1. Jesus & His disciples influenced crowds
2. Other smaller boats began following along
 - a. Ship: Greek word “ploion” meaning boat (larger fishing vessel)
 - b. Little boats: Greek work “ploiarion” meaning smaller boats
3. Christians to live obediently to God’s commands

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

4. Christians influence others more than they think

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

III. The Storm

A. Severity of the storm

1. Natural causes to storms on Sea of Galilee
 - a. Rising heat off surface of water
 - b. Cold winds blowing down off the mountains
2. But this event described as unusually severe store – “great tempest” (Matthew 8:24) & “storm of wind” (Luke 8:23)
3. Disciples were in God’s will inside boat with Jesus
4. Possible for Satan to affect natural causes
 - a. Satan described as Prince of power of air”

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

- b. Satan roams over face of earth

Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

- c. Satan sent great wind destroying home, crushing all Job’s children to death (Job 1:18-19)

5. Jesus teaches Christian that there will be storms of life

1 Peter 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

2 Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

6. But God promises His presence & help

Hebrews 13:5-6 ⁵ Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. ⁶ So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

B. Serenity of the Savior

1. Jesus extremely exhausted

a. Jesus asleep on padded bench in stern (back) of boat

b. He slept while boat tossed about in great storm

Luke 8:23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy.

2. Jesus had inner security of being in God's will

Psalm 4:8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

3. Storm event simile (picture) of story of Christian life

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

C. Suspense of the disciples

1. Several disciples experienced fishermen on Sea of Galilee

2. They were fearful for their lives with boat filling up with water

3. What disciples said was troubling, "Don't you care that we drown?"

a. Disciples had mental disconnect between storm severity & Jesu's serenity

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

b. Moment of conflict in their souls

4. Similar to Christian experience
 - a. When life opposite to expectations
 - b. Feeling like getting no answers to prayer
5. Unbelief is troubling problem for the soul

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

IV. The Savior

A. Savior's rebuke to wind

1. Jesus was right on time as waves over top of boat & filling it with water
2. Jesus simply told wind to "be still"

- a. Simple power of word of God

Psalm 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

- b. Simple power to man's mind, heart, soul, & spirit

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

3. Jesus brings calm & peace

- a. Eternal peace

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

- b. Present peace

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- c. Internal peace

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

B. Savior's reproof to disciples

1. Problem of hearts of disciples

- a. Not angry that disciples woke Him up
- b. Not angry at their timing of situation

2. Jesus disappointed in their lack of faith

- a. Check your reaction in day of adversity

Proverbs 24:10 If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

- b. Adversity reveals Christian kind of heart

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

3. God's asks Christian to trust Him & believe Him

- a. Faith comes from Word of God

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- b. Spirit of power, love, & sound mind

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

- c. Christians built on cornerstone foundation

Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

C. Disciples reaction to miracle

1. Shock & awe, "natural forces obey Him?"

2. Different kind of fear, "What manner of man is this?"

Matthew 8:27 But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

3. Jesus asks them where they put their faith (as if it's lost)

Luke 8:25 And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

4. Paul preached to know Christ & the power of His resurrection

Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

V. Conclusion

A. God calls Christian

1. To believe Him & trust Him
2. Faith comes from the Word of God

B. God calls all people

1. To repent (turn away from sin)
2. To believe that Jesus died for your sins & came alive from the dead to give you new life

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 ³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: ⁵ And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

Romans 10:9-10 ⁹ That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.