

7 Signs of Christ in the book of John

#5 Walking on the Water

John 6:14-24 (Matthew 14:22-34, Mark 6:45-56)

Fear is one of the most crippling emotions man must face

We embrace it in thrill rides, scary movies etc.

We make heroes of those who move ahead in the face of it.

It's a motivation for many good things - fear of losing job

We love it but hate it - no one really likes to be afraid.

What do we fear most?

Unknown - our imagination runs wild

Failure to You fill in the blank

Fear of (One man listed 450 from textbooks)

Background

Feeding of the 5000 brought great popularity to Jesus

The Feeding of the 5000 was the lesson – then came the test

Desire on the part of the crowd to make Him King

Jesus had to take action to help the Disciples know the truth

I. Sent into the Storm Vs. 14-19a

A. Compelled to go

1. Jesus sent the disciples to the boat, the crowd away
2. He compelled (forced) them to leave without Him
3. He sent them into the storm

B. Choice of storm

1. Political storm about a King - avoided
2. Natural storm - allowed to come
3. Reasons we face storms -
 - a. Sin - natural consequences
 - b. Obedience - testing and development of skills

C. Challenge of the storm

1. Natural storms
 - a. Quickly came - natural for that lake -
 - b. Rowed till 3am - only in middle - exhausted
 - c. Dark and windy - impaired vision
2. Spiritual storms
 - a. Come unexpectedly - cause fear

b. Cause us to feel alone - exhausted

c. Cloud our vision for what is real

II. Sight in the Storm

A. Jesus saw them straining in the sea

1. He is aware of all that we face
2. He has experienced the storms of life as well

B. Jesus came walking on the water

1. The impossible is natural for Him
2. His path was to them

C. Jesus identified Himself

1. They let their imagination run at first - ghost
2. He spoke clearly, confidently and definitively
 - a. It is I - same construction as I AM
 - b. Reminded them of OT
to Moses Exodus - it is I who have sent you
to David 2 Sam. - it is I who delivered you
in Psalms - it is I who judge with equity
to Isaiah - it is I the Lord ... who calls you by your
name, who made the earth, who speak in
righteousness, mighty to save

Later they would hear "it is I myself, touch me and see

3. Don't be afraid -
 - a. Confidence in a person allows us to be calm
 - b. Fear is a decision

III. Salvation in the Storm

A. Recognition of who He was

1. First sighting brought fear because of lack of knowledge
and misunderstanding
2. His voice was familiar and they saw Him clearly

B. Willingness to accept Him into the boat

1. Choice to accept His help
2. Choice to rely on His strength

C. Immediate results

1. Winds began to die down
2. Immediately they were at the shore

What we should do in the storms of life

- 1. Remember God is still on the throne**
 - a. Nothing comes our way without his permission
 - b. He has promised that the waves will not overcome us
- 2. Recognize that we are not able alone to overcome -**
 - a. We look at ourselves and know we are weak
 - b. We feel alone and exhausted
- 3. Focus on who He is and not the storm**
 - a. He is the creator and sustainer of life
 - b. He is the personal Lord known by his followers
- 4. Receive Him into the boat**
 - a. Decide to believe
 - b. Allow Him to have the controls

Significance of this Sign

- 1. Trouble does come into an obedient life**
- 2. God see and will come to us in the storm**
- 3. We need to recognize Him and invite Him into our lives**

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