

## The Lord rises above and conquers chaos and disorder

### Mark 6:45-52 - Jesus Walks on the Water

<sup>45</sup> Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

<sup>47</sup> Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. <sup>48</sup> He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, <sup>49</sup> but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, <sup>50</sup> because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, **“Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”** <sup>51</sup> Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, <sup>52</sup> for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

This story occurs right after the miracle of loaves and fishes...

In it, Jesus feeds the crowd ***and the crowd, seeing the miracle***, decides that Jesus is the Messiah so they try to grab him and set him up as the king.

Jesus had no interest in becoming an earthly king at this time, so he immediately ***sends his disciples away in a boat while he escapes to the mountain to pray.***

### Remember the story of Elijah in 1 Kings.

In chapter 18 **Elijah is calling fire down from heaven** and ordering that all the **prophets of Baal be put to the sword.**

***The false prophets were an obstacle to bringing God’s word to the people!***

- **False Prophets** – Worked to benefit themselves!
- Held positions of great wealth
- Gave false messages
- Spoke only what the people wanted to hear

They gave “messages” that appealed to the people’s sinful nature and **comforted their fears...**

False Prophets told people what they wanted to hear.

**True Prophets told God’s truth...**

In chapter 19, however, Elijah is hiding in a cave. He is afraid of Jezebel. Elijah with the Power of God on him is a fierce fighter.

Elijah the man is not; he is as fearful and as human as any of us.

God sends an angel to Elijah to bring him food and drink – **to give him strength.**

**1 Kings 19:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.”<sup>5</sup> Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, **“Get up and eat.”**<sup>6</sup> He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. **He ate and drank and then lay down again.**

- Elijah experienced fatigue and discouragement after great victory!
- To lead him out of this depression God allowed him to eat and rest.
- Then **God confronted him...**
- He told him to return to the mission – to speak God’s WORD...
- **HE still had work to do!!!!**

So we see that Jesus, being fully God and fully man at the same time, needs to do the same thing.

**After working a great miracle, he needs to recharge.**

So Jesus goes into the mountain to pray alone.

Jesus is in the mountains getting the strength He needs for the next task.

- He sent the disciples on their way ahead of Him.
- At around 4:00 AM He comes walking on the water.

***Remember that we have seen Jesus interacting with the waves before...***

**Luke 8:24-25** - Jesus Calms the storm

<sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we’re going to drown!”

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm.

<sup>25</sup> ***“Where is your faith?”*** he asked his disciples. - In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

**When caught in the storms of life, it is easy to think that God has lost control.**

- Just as Jesus calmed the waves
- He can calm whatever storms you may face....

***This ability to command the waters is a Messianic prophecy that occurs in:***

**Psalms 89:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> Who is like you, Lord God Almighty?

You, Lord, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

<sup>9</sup> **You rule over the surging sea;**

when its waves mount up, you still them.

**The word LORD** is all capitals in the KJV because the Hebrew word “Yah” is there in the original text.

So Yahweh, the unspeakable name of God, is substituted with the word Adonai that means “Lord.”

**Yahweh, the God of creation, is the one who controls the raging of the seas.**

So when the disciples ask, “***what manner of man is this,***” the scripture is pointing directly to Psalms 89.

Not only that, it is making an explicit statement that Jesus (Yah-shua) is the same as Yahweh; ***that Jesus is THE LORD in flesh.***

Notice the next verse of the Psalm. ***Psalm 89:10-11***

- <sup>10</sup> You crushed Rahab like one of the slain;  
with your strong arm you scattered your enemies.  
<sup>11</sup> The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth;  
you founded the world and all that is in it.

- ***Rahab is a name for a monster*** known in ancient Near Eastern poetry as ***an enemy of God.***

This verse is a little trickier to understand.

- Rahab is the embodiment of chaos – ***the exact opposite of order. This chaos, Rahab, appears first in the Bible in Genesis.***

### ***Genesis 1:2***

<sup>2</sup> Now the earth was ***formless and empty, darkness*** was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the ***waters.***

***So the “waters” of Genesis 1:2 was called Rahab.***

- It represented total chaos.
- Yahweh moves on the waters of chaos
- Starts separating it into orderly things.

***He divides light from darkness, land from water...***

- The Lord causes the earth to rise from the deep waters of chaos...

So the Lord causes the earth to rise up from the waters of Rahab and by doing so,

***\*The Lord rises above and conquers chaos and disorder in the universe.***

In this story, we have the waters in the midst of a storm. Jesus literally walks on the water.

Symbolically, however, **He rises above the chaos of the situation.**

**Matthew 14:28-33**

<sup>28</sup> “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

<sup>29</sup> “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. ***“You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”***

<sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, ***“Truly you are the Son of God.”***

***Peter is a good candidate because he is like many of us.***

- There is ***no one who messed up more*** consistently than Peter.
- Whether he was denying Jesus at his trial,
- Slicing off the ear of a Temple guard,
- You can count on Peter ***to do the wrong thing.***

In spite of Peter’s actions, ***he was always willing to correct himself*** when he found he was in the wrong.

***Peter serves as a good example for us*** in that regard.

- No matter how much we mess up,
- The Lord will always take us back
- If we are willing to ***give up our pride and repent.***

Most of the disciples stayed in the boat.

- ***It is much easier to stay in the boat*** where it is safe.

How many of us, when we see the Lord walking on the water have the forethought to ask him ***to ask us out into the water*** as well?

Do we rush headlong into the water thinking, “If he can do that, so can I”?

Do we sit on the deck chair saying, ***“There is no way I could do that.”*** In fact, he’s crazy for doing it!”

**Peter asks Jesus to call him out onto the water.**

- In doing so, we see that **God will give us the strength we need** when we need it;
- Even if it means that **we will walk on the water.**

***So we see that we can have power over the chaos in our own lives if we need it.***

Like Peter, however, **we can be distracted by the waves.**

***Rather than concentrating on Jesus and the power he gives us over the waves, we concentrate on the waves.***

- As soon as that happens, **we sink into the sea of chaos.**
- **Jesus is there to pull us up again,**
- But he is disappointed at our lack of trust.

How many of you have been distracted by the waves of chaos in your life?

We want to do the work of the Lord, but we are distracted by the life around us.

We want to do well, we try to get out of the boat, but The Waves!

**Ask the Lord to help you with the waves in your life.**

***Have you been concentrating more on the waves than on the God who created them?***

Is there a storm in your life?

Are you sitting in a rocking boat?

**Mark 6:48**

<sup>48</sup> He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them,

The Lord will leave you to wail against the wind and the sea in your life. But if you call out to Him and ask, He will bid you to come and lift you when you fall.

**Closing:**

The disciples were afraid, but Jesus' presence calmed their fears...

When you experience fear, do you try and deal with it yourself, OR do you let Jesus deal with it????

In times of fear and uncertainty, It is calming to know that Christ is with you!!!

**Matthew 28:20 -**

<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**\*The Lord rises above and conquers chaos and disorder in the universe.**

***Rather than concentrating on Jesus and the power he gives us over the waves, we concentrate on the waves.***

***Have you been concentrating more on the waves than on the God who created them?***

**When caught in the storms of life, it is easy to think that God has lost control.**

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