

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



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Mark 4:35–41

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35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” **36** And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. **37** And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. **38** But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” **39** And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. **40** He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” **41** And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

Storms induce desperation

- “And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” (vv. 37–38).



- The disciples despaired because they thought they were going to die.
- “4 But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. 5 Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. 6 So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish” (Jonah 1:4–6).
- 9 Awake, awake, put on strength.
O arm of the Lord;
awake, as in days of old,
the generations of long ago.
 Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces,
 who pierced the dragon?
 10 Was it not you who dried up the sea,
 the waters of the great deep,
 who made the depths of the sea a way
 for the redeemed to pass over? (Isaiah 51:9–10).
- We experience despair when we lose hope.

Storms tempt us to doubt

- “He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” (v. 40).
- The Disciples doubted because they had already forgotten.
 - “Their failure to recognize who Jesus was meant at least their failure to recognize that God was at work in him” (Robert Guelich, *Mark 1–8:26*, 268).
- We experience doubt when we forget
 - When we forget, we forget the gospel.

Storms cease with Jesus' dominion

- “And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm” (v. 39).
- Jesus has dominion because of who he is.
 - “But Jesus rebuked him, saying, ‘Be silent, and come out of him!’” (Mark 1:25).
 - Jesus “does not simply pray to God; he acts as God” (Peter Orr, *The Beginning of the Gospel*, 41).
- 28 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
29 He made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.
30 Then they were glad that the waters were quiet,
and he brought them to their desired haven.
31 Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man! (Psalm 107:28–31).
- Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God!
- We experience peace when we trust Jesus.

What storm are you in?

Do not doubt Jesus' dominion over life's despairing storms.