

**20- Walking on the Troubled Sea**

**Mark 6:45-52**

Can we believe that God is supernatural and that He can do beyond anything mankind can do within his power of technology and knowledge? Yes, yes and a thousand times yes, I say that we can. We see in our text today that Christ is there walking on the troubled sea. The servant arrives just in time.

**I- Misconception of Jesus:**

**Mark 6:45** And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people. The context of the events under consideration today is immediately after the feeding of the five thousand. John tells us that the people wanted to take Jesus by force and make Him King. **John 6:14-15** When the people saw the sign He had done, they said, "This really is the Prophet who was to come into the world!" **15** Therefore, when Jesus knew that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He withdrew again to the mountain by Himself. They had a misconception of Jesus.

Jesus sends His disciples away so that He could dismiss the crowd and go to the mountain. **Mark 6:46** And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

**II- Trouble on the Sea:**

These fishermen were in the boat that Jesus was still on land. **Mark 6:47** And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. **48** And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: Some say that Jesus could see them from where He was. I believe that Jesus could see not with physical eyes but with the all seeing eye of God. They had gotten 3 or 4 miles from shore. **John 6:19 HCSB** After they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea. He was coming near the boat, and they were afraid.

May I suggest that God knows our needs before we cry out? We see in **Matthew 6:8** ...your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. Neither the dark of night nor the storm kept Jesus from knowing their peril. Jesus comes to them in the darkest of the night. The fourth watch is from 3-6 in the morning. **Mark 6:48b** ...and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea...

**III- Recognizing Help Has Arrived:**

One thing that many times I think we fail to realize is that help has arrived. Notice when Jesus approaches the boat that He would have passed them by. This is a perplexing thought. Jesus comes near in trouble but we do not see Him. **Mark 6:48** ...and would have passed by them.

Many times in trouble we try to go it alone. They cried out to Him as He came near. **Mark 6:49** But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: **50** For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

**IV- Get Jesus in the Boat:**

Matthew, in his gospel, alone tells us about Peter walking on the water. **Matthew 14:28** And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. Peter took his eyes off Christ and sank.

May I suggest to us that the safest place, whether in the midst of a storm or sailing on seemingly calm seas, is that we have Jesus in the boat with us. **Mark 6:51** And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

How do we turn our problems over to God? First, we must realize that we are not capable of affecting the circumstances. Second, we must realize that God cares for us. Cares for us more than we can imagine. Third, realize that God wants to help us. Fourth, being willing to leave the outcome of life in the hands of God. He knows more about the situations than we will ever. Fifth, when we are tempted to pick it back up, resist the temptation.

In order to do this we must overcome the weakness of the flesh. Notice the caveat that is placed on the end of the event. **Mark 6:52** For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened.