

Jesus Calms the Storm

Matthew 8:18-27

July 4, 2021

Observation:

Jesus was sleeping after a long day of teaching. Remember, Jesus was 100% human so He rested; so should we.

If you don't make time for down time, down time will be made for you.

1) Storms are unavoidable.

This storm came up with Jesus physically in the boat. The fact that you and I have Jesus with us does not negate storms in our life.

Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe?" ³² Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. ³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

John 16:31-33

Why do we face trouble in this world? Ultimately because of sin.

Jesus is not only the sin taker, but ultimately the sin extinguisher, so we go to Him. This is not to say every storm we face is because of our sin per se, but sin in general. God uses storms for His glory.

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. ² And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. ⁴ I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

John 9:1-5

All storms in our life is an opportunity for Jesus to be glorified and for us to grow.

2) We must remember Jesus' promises, especially in the storms!

Remember, Jesus had told them when they got into the boat that they were going to the other side, they obviously forgot that. Verse 22 says, "let's go to the other side of the lake."

What are the promises of God we need to remember?

Promises of God in the New Testament.

God promised salvation to all who believe in His Son (Romans 1:16-17). There is no greater blessing than the free gift of God's salvation.

God promised that all things will work out for good for His children (Romans 8:28). This is the broader picture that keeps us from being dismayed by present circumstances.

God promised comfort in our trials (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). He has a plan, and one day we will be able to share the comfort we receive.

God promised new life in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Salvation is the beginning of a brand-new existence.

God promised every spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). Whereas, in the Old Testament, Israel had the promise of physical blessing. The church today has been promised spiritual blessings "in the heavenly realms." Our inheritance is reserved for us (1 Peter 1:4).

God promised to finish the work He started in us (Philippians 1:6). God does nothing in half measures. He started the

work in us, and He will be sure to complete it.

God promised peace when we pray (Philippians 4:6–7). His peace is protection. It will “guard your hearts and your minds in Christ.”

God promised to supply our needs (Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:19). Not that we get everything we *want*, but our *needs* will be taken care of. We are more valuable than the birds, and our Heavenly Father feeds them (Matthew 6:26).

Jesus’ promises in the Gospels.

Jesus promised rest (Matthew 11:28–30). Burdens are lifted at Calvary.

Jesus promised abundant life to those who follow Him (John 10:10). Following Jesus brings us more spiritual fulfillment than we could have anticipated. We leave boring behind.

Jesus promised eternal life to those who trust Him (John 4:14). The Good Shepherd also promised to hold us securely: “No one will snatch them out of my hand” (John 10:28).

Jesus promised His disciples power from on high (Acts 1:8). In this power, they “turned the world upside down” (Acts 17:6, ESV).

Jesus promised that He will return for us (John 14:2–3). From then on, we will be with Him always.

There are many more promises of God that could be listed. All of them find their ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ, “the radiance of God’s glory” (Hebrews 1:3). “No matter how many promises God has made, they are ‘Yes’ in Christ” (2 Corinthians 1:20).¹

3) Jesus is our anchor in the storm.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills—from whence comes my help? ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. **Psalm 121:1-2**

An **anchor** is a device, normally made of metal, used to secure a vessel to the bed of a body of water to prevent the craft from drifting due to wind or current. The word derives from Latin *ancora*, which itself comes from the Greek ἄγκυρα (*ankūra*). **Anchors** can either be temporary or permanent.

For the disciples they had the anchor in the boat with them. Again, the anchor is used often to hold in place, but in this case its to hold in place in times of turbulence.

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. **Proverbs 18:10**

With all the “changing” in our world Jesus is the only constant. Scripture reminds us He is the same, yesterday today and forever.

As a Believer, isn’t it good to know we have the faithful and consistent One in an ever changing world?

4) We are to point others to the Anchor.

We become that anchor for others (because of our connection to Jesus) as we push others to Him.

Our ultimate goal is to point others to Jesus and in doing so we are often their anchor in times of need.

Prayer Focus:

- **Acknowledge storms are a part of life.**
- **Remember Jesus and His promises in those storms.**
- **Know you are an anchor for some in storms, point them to the ultimate Anchor.**

¹ <https://www.gotquestions.org/promises-of-God.html>