

STORMS

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Matthew 14:22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

28 And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." ESV

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Introduction

When we think of the role of Jesus Christ in the life of the believer, we might come up with images of a Shepherd as found in the 23rd Psalm. Or of the image of a hen covering her chicks in the shadow of her wings.

We might even see Him as the leader who is there to protect you from all harm as we make our way in this journey of life.

While all of these examples are scriptural and make us feel good, we should also understand that there is another side of Jesus' leadership that breaks the mold of these thoughts.

Join me as we look at today's passage.

The verses leading to our passage include the murder of John the Baptist, Jesus healing the sick and the feeding of the 5,000.

Realize He Wants You To Go Into The Storm

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Realize He Wants You To Row In The Storm

24 but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them.

Realize He Wants You To Grow In The Storm

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Realize He Wants You To Bow in the Storm

30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Conclusion

As we learned from the example of God leading the Children of Israel in the wilderness through, detours, dead ends and empty places, The Christian should also take note that the same God of the Exile, is the same God of my life today. There are times that the way will be smooth and bump free. However, there are other times when Jesus will send you into the storm. Be prepared.

Jesus expects you to "row in the storm." He expects you to continue on your journey and not give up.

Jesus brings you into the storm so that your faith will grow

And during the storm, He expects you to acknowledge that He is in storm with you.