

# STILLING THE TEMPEST

## Int.

1. Aim: To explain this miracle of Jesus and then show a parable of the same.
2. This miracle is recorded in [Mt. 8:23-27](#) Mk. 4:36-41 and Lk. 8:22-25
3. We are all mindful of the power of storms in our world
4. We will notice this miracle and then explain it as a parable.

## Discussion

### **I. THE MIRACLE**

- A. V. 23 **"and when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him."**
  1. It was their duty to follow where he guided
  2. It was surely safe to be in his presence
  3. In Luke's account he tells that Jesus requests they go over to the other side of the lake.
  
- B. V. 24 **And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, inasmuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.**
  1. Jesus was asleep
    - a. Luke indicates that Jesus went to sleep almost immediately
    - b. He was weary and tired from the days activities
    - c. In Mark he says that he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow
  2. Great tempest
    - a. Common thing on the Sea of Galilee - it was 682 ft. below sea level

- b. High mountains surrounded the sea - rose about 2,000 ft.
- c. The cold winds coming down the mountain would strike the hot air over the surface of the sea and caused frequent storms
- d. Matthew uses a word which means "great shaking"
- e. But Mark and Luke use words which literally mean "a hurricane of a great driving wind."

(1) Mark = Great storm of wind

(2) Luke = Storm of wind

3. Covered with the waves

- a. Luke says they were covered with water and were in jeopardy
- b. Mark = now full
- c. Because it was a small ship it filled with water and was sinking

C. V. 25 **"And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish."**

- 1. They did not awake him at first but when the storm got dangerous they did awaken him.
- 2. They appealed to him for help
- 3. Some of these men were expert sailors who knew all about handling a boat and they had been in many a violent storm on this sea.
- 4. They were asking Jesus a carpenter to help them in this raging storm. They forget that he had never sailed a boat.
- 5. They want the best help available so they put themselves in the divine hands of Jesus.

D. V. 26 **And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.**

1. Jesus gave them a mild rebuke because they were afraid of a storm with him in the boat
2. The fear of the disciples would have been excusable if Jesus had not been in the vessel with them
3. With Him present they should have understood that they were safe
4. "Little faith" = a brief faith
5. Fear and faith stand in opposition to each other
6. He rebuked the winds and the sea - the result was calm. The sea became placid and tranquil at once.
7. In Mark's account he said to the sea: "Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."
8. The word "rebuke" is from a word that means to muzzle or to restrain. It is used in talking about muzzling the ox.
  - a. 1 Cor. 9:9 **For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen?**
  - b. Found in Deut. 25:4 **Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out [the corn].**
  - c. 1 Tim. 5:18 **For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer [is] worthy of his reward.**
9. 1 Pet. 2:15 **For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:** - same word used in the phrase "put to silence" the ignorance of foolish men

10. There was a sudden calm - this shows that it was a miracle because normally a body of water continues to have waves after the winds cease. But these waves all ceased because Jesus had control of them.

11. Nahum 1:3-5 **The LORD [is] slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit [the wicked]: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds [are] the dust of his feet. 4 He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bachan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth. 5 The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.**

E. V. 27 **"But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!"**

1. The storm subsided, the ship sailed smoothly in the still sea, and in amazement the men stood in the presence of him who controlled the tempests
2. They knew he must be God because none but God could calm the storm like this
3. This power of Jesus strengthened their faith in him.
4. The winds and the sea obey him because he Made them in the beginning.
5. Every area of existence was totally under our Lord's authority.
6. What kind of man is this? They knew that he as a man got tired, sleepy, hungry and thirsty. But they also knew he could heal fever, paralysis, leprosy, and cast out evil spirits. Now he demonstrates that he has power over the forces of nature. He could stop a hurricane in its tracks!
7. Jesus was a commander not just for his disciples but also for the destructive powerful forces of a storm which threatened them.
8. They had faith now, not fear!

## **II. THE PARABLE OF THE TEMPEST**

- A. The Sea, the Boat, the Storm, distress, Master's voice, Calm
- B. Parable = comparison, illustration
- C. **The Sea of Galilee** is the sea of life
- D. **The Boat**
  - 1. Jesus and the disciples were the occupants in the miracle
  - 2. This can represent the church with all the people who are members
    - a. Church = the called out of the world
    - b. People
    - c. Matt. 16:18 - Rom. 16:16
  - 3. The church sails on the waters of the world and her voyage to the harbor of eternity
- E. **A storm**
  - 1. On the voyage of life we encounter the storm/storms - they are inevitable
  - 2. Ps 88:3 **"For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave."**
  - 3. We need not pray to escape the storm, but for strength to endure it.
  - 4. Jn. 17:15 **I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.**
  - 5. In this life we are going to have temptations and trials
  - 6. John 16:33 **These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.**
  - 7. The most devout and dedicated Christians are not exempt from sorrow or tribulation.

## F. **A cry of Distress**

1. During the storms and trials we come face to face with our weaknesses
2. We learn that we are not able to deliver ourselves
3. Then we go to the throne of grace saying, "Master, master, we perish."
4. Ever since sin entered into the world, man has been the victim of fear. Guilt and alarm are wedded to one another.
5. Phil. 4:6 **Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**
6. Matt. 7:7 **Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:**

## G. **The Master's Voice**

1. The master is moved by the fear of the people.
2. His compassion is heard in the mild rebuke for those of little faith.
3. Then he speaks to us about the troubled sea of life
4. He speaks first to the heart, the source of the disturbance.
5. He can deliver, he will deliver, he delights to deliver, he was engaged to deliver
6. 2 Pet. 2:9 **The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:**
7. 1 Pet. 5:7 **"Casting all your care upon him; for he crieth for you."**
8. 1 Pet. 3:12 **"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."**

## H. **A Calm**

1. After the storm of life, Jesus will say to our storm-tossed soul "Peace Be Still"
2. Then a great calm will come
3. When we listen to the divine voice we will always have a calm !
4. When we have a storm in our heart and soul then Jesus can bring calm.
5. We can have the peace that passeth all understanding.
6. Phil. 4:6-8 **Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report: if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things.**
7. We may be sailing on life's sea comfortably and smoothly. Without warning disaster sets in and begins to howl around us. We need to cry out, "Master, Perish," instead of trying to handle it all in our own strength.
8. Often the saint of the Lord is tossed on the seas of sorrows, temptations and trouble.
9. When the soul goes in confidence to the Lord he rebukes the wind and the waves and there is a great calm
10. We can find comfort and refuge in God, who is in control of all things.
  - a. No matter how bad life may be, our troubles will one day pass away.
  - b. Yes, we are suffering; but no, it will not last forever.

- c. Ps. 29:10-11 **"The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever. 11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace."**

## Conclusion

1. Ps. 107:25-31 **"25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. 26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. 27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end. 28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. 29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. 30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. 31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"**
  2. At the last day there will be the fearful tempest of the Divine Wrath of God for those who have been disobedient to him
    - a. The hills and mountains shall be moved out of their places
    - b. The sun shall become as sackcloth and the moon as blood, and the stars will fall
    - c. This globe will be enveloped with flames.
    - d. The Christian will lean on the mighty arm of Jesus and be delivered from the destruction but the ungodly and sinners shall be eternally punished.
  3. Jesus is our deliverer from the storms of life.
  4. Obey Him and He will Save you!

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## Sources

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