

January 10, 2021

The New Testament!
Matthew 14:22-36
More Compassion, More Miracles
"Jesus walks on water!"

All Scripture ESV English Standard Version unless noted!

Matthew 14:22-36 Jesus Walks on the Water
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."

Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret

34 And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick 36 and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

Introduction

In the loaves and fishes study we learned that chapters 14-17 have these themes:

1. Jesus is doing more and more private instruction
2. The failure of the disciples to grasp and respond to Jesus' teaching
3. But we began to see true faith and growth

As we saw last week He was teaching the disciples that they could do nothing on their own

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches.

Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing..

At the same time He was teaching them that He is totally sufficient for the doing of all things

And in His allowing the disciples to serve the meal He was teaching them that they (we) are to take the gospel to the people

They had nothing to offer the people but Jesus, the true bread of life

This feeding was a divine miracle by divine power

What Jesus did was a miracle

It was in the same league with a dead man being born again

Today Jesus continues to teach

Teaching the disciples that they must keep their mind and eyes focused on Him
The account of Peter walking on water is only recorded by Matthew

So the next question for today is why did Jesus send the disciples away and stay behind

When we study all the gospels this is what we see

1. He wanted to be alone to pray
2. He wanted to escape the crowds and rest, Mark 6:31
3. He wanted to quell the attempt to make Him an earthly king

This is what they all wanted, even the disciples at this time was an earthly king that would deliver them from the Rome

This was a critical juncture in Jesus' ministry

He felt the need for prayer

He was tempted and tried

The people were really offering Him what the devil offered Him after His time in the wilderness

Matthew 4:8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

He was being tempted to swerve from the course that would take Him to a cruel death on a rugged cross and the desertion of many of His followers
Pride, Selfishness and Unbelief

Jesus in His flesh was being tempted

The text: **Matthew 14:22-36**

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

Christ had to severely suggest to them that they leave

They were in a desert place, night was coming

They were reluctant to leave Christ alone

But his command was obeyed

1. That he might disperse the multitude, Mark 6:45
2. That he might prevent an uprising to make Him an earthly king, John 6:15.
3. To make way for another miracle that their going by sea allowed
4. To gain himself a private opportunity for prayer.

Mark 6:31 NIV Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

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,

6-9, 9-12, 12-3, 3-6

John just says He went up on a mountain, Matthew and Mark say it was to pray

The Lord surely sets the example for us that private and secret prayer is a duty and necessity

This was a time of refreshment and His delight

We need to learn the lesson of solitude; we do not need to always be surrounded by people

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.

Job 9:8 Who alone stretched out the heavens

and trampled the waves of 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."

While the Savior was praying on the mountain the boat with the disciples was crossing the sea
A storm on a body of water (696 ft) that God created
Both the winds and the waves were under his command

4th watch which would be just before dawn
Jesus came walking to them as if He was on firm ground

And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled

They said, "It is a spirit", and they cried out for fear
But Jesus spoke to them, saying, "it is I"

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, "I am who I am." [a] And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you.'

Isaiah 43:10-13 "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. 11 I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. 12 I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and I am God. 13 Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?"

I am who I am (Yahweh), I am the one who is
I am the one who self exists

This Yahweh, "I am who I am" is the most significant name for God in the OT

He is the active and self-existent God

He is the one "to be", meaning the "Redeemer"

The names represents God's holiness, His hatred for sin and His provision of redemption

He did not mince any words, He immediately addressed them

They are in the sea and in this situation because Christ had commanded them to leave

We have to have confidence that He knows where we are and our predicament

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

It says He came in the 4th watch of the night, 3-6 AM

The real truth is He comes at the right time

Just remember that it is not the devil who rules over the storm but the Lord Himself

Matthew 8:26 And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

Next week we will finish up and look at the up and down nature of faith of His followers!

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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?"

Peter is a pattern of the best believers
One moment we think we would trust God in any
circumstance
Then something comes along and we fret and worry
and are tempted and fail

This shows us our need for prayer and how to pray
We must pray that God in His providence would not
allow us to come under great temptations
No man knows how he will respond in great
temptation

We surely know what we are capable of
**Mark 7:20-23 He went on: "What comes out of a
person is what defiles them. 21 For it is from within,
out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—
sexual immorality, theft, murder, 22 adultery, greed,
malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and
folly. 23 All these evils come from inside and defile a
person."**

No man knows how he shall find his heart under a
great temptation

We do not need to put much confidence in ourselves
We need to be careful that we are not critical when
others fall

We must stay on our knees and keep our eyes on
Jesus

In v28 Peter just spews out some idle words
When Peter began to sink He had time to cry, "Lord"
What a prayer, "Lord"
Every man is a lost man unless his Lord will save him
What a prayer, "Lord save me" or "Lord save _____"

**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."**

Jesus and Peter got in the boat
For us that would mean we would get in His Word,
we would be filled with His spirit, we would be
serving in His church, into being obedience that we
might know and do His good will

Romans 12:1-2NIV Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

This is a time when we see His divine nature override
His earthly and physical nature

He had the power to suspend gravity

No sooner was Christ come into the ship that the
wind ceased

They worshipped Him because He saved their lives

The Samaritan woman called Him a prophet

The water to wine miracle shows that He has divine
power

The blind man called Him the Son of David

Here for the first time He is called the Son of God

Peter could walk on water when He was holding

Jesus hand and so could we

What peace there was when the storm ended and
the sea became calm

Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret

34 And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick 36 and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of

his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

These people at least knew of Jesus

Look how they reacted

They had faith in Him

They loved their neighbors enough to tell them about Jesus

They brought all the sick to Him

Their faith implies that they know of His power and have confidence in his goodness.

Our King is master of both land and sea

He heals diseases and calms the storm

He imparts to His followers great power