

Calming Storms and Drowning Demons (Matthew 8:23-34)

Introduction: The Exodus at the Red Sea (Moses and Jesus)

I. Calming Storms (8:23-27)

A respite from two long days of ministry is interrupted by a sudden fierce storm

The disciples' reaction vs. Jesus' reaction

Christ's concern for our "little faith"

Yet "little faith" is some faith – and Christ answers their cry for help

Be careful not to judge "little faith" as an apostate or backslider

Respite is returned as Jesus stills the storm

Why are there storms in the first place?

The Disciples' Question: *What sort of man is this?*

II. Drowning Demons (8:28-34)

The Demons Answer: *The Son of God*

What are demons?

Jesus casts out "Legion" into a herd of 2000 pigs

The townspeople's reaction to this miracle

What is your reaction to the authority of Christ?

The offense of the drowning pigs

III. Application

In order to understand how to apply this text, we need to understand the purpose of this text in the context of the entire Gospel of Matthew

O you of little faith ... how do you grow in your faith

Jesus will calm the storms of all disciples in the boat – look to Him, not yourself