2/15/15

<u>SERIES</u>: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS COME, WEEK 61

TITLE: JESUS' POWER OVER NATURE

TEXT: LUKE 8:22-25

INTRODUCTION: (1) ISAAC WATTS WROTE A HYMN THAT WE WILL SING AT THE END TODAY: "I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD".

* IN THAT HYMN WATTS SAID: "I SING THE MIGHTY <u>POWER OF GOD</u>, THAT MADE THE MOUNTAINS RISE. THAT SPREAD THE FLOWING SEAS ABROAD AND BUILT THE LOFTY SKIES.

** I SING THE WISDOM THAT ORDAINED THE SUN TO RULE THE DAY. THE MOON SHINES FULL AT HIS COMMAND, AND ALL THE STARS OBEY."

*** IN THE 3'D VERSE WATTS WROTE: "THERE'S NOT A PLANT OR FLOW'R BELOW BUT MAKES THY GLORIES KNOWN.

**** AND CLOUDS ARISE AND TEMPESTS BLOW BY ORDER FROM THY THRONE. WHILE ALL THAT BORROWS LIFE FROM THEE IS EVER IN THY CARE, AND EV-RY-WHERE THAT MAN CAN BE, THOU, GOD ARE PRESENT THERE." AND WHAT A WONDERFUL HYMN WITH WONDERFUL TRUTH COMMUNICATING THE POWER OF GOD.

(2) NOW WE COMMUNICATE THE POWER OF GOD IN OUR VOCABULARY WITH ONE WORD: "OMNIPOTENCE". GOD IS OMNIPOTENT, HE IS ALL POWERFUL. AND THE SCRIPTURES MAKE THAT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR.

* PSALM 62:11 SAYS THAT "POWER BELONGS TO GOD". IN PSALM 79:11 THE PSALMISTS SPEAKS OF "THE GREATNESS OF THY POWER" MAKING REFERENCE TO GOD'S POWER.

** IN PSALM 63:1&2 DAVID CRIED OUT, "O GOD, THOU ART MY GOD; I SHALL SEEK THEE EARNESTLY; MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR THEE, MY FLESH YEARNS FOR THEE, IN A DRY AND WEARY LAND WHERE THERE IS NO WATER. THUS I HAVE BEHELD THEE IN THE SANCTUARY, TO SEE THEY <u>POWER</u> AND THY GLORY.

*** PAUL SAID IN ROMANS 1:20: (QUOTE IT)

**** NOW CLEARLY GOD IS THE GOD OF ALL POWER, HE IS OMNIPOTENT, HE IS THE ALL-MIGHTY, HE IS THE CREATOR AND SUSTAINER OF THE UNIVERSE.

(3) AND IN THE N.T. CHRIST IS COMMUNICATED AS THE ONE WHO IS ALL-MIGHTY, GOD THE SON WHO IS THE CREATOR AND SUSTAINER OF THE UNIVERSE, THE ONE WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN ALL POWER.

* HEBREWS 1:3 SAYS OF CHRIST, THAT HE "UPHOLDS ALL THINGS BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER."

** COLOSSIANS 1:16&17 SAYS THIS ABOUT CHRIST: "FOR IN HIM ALL THINGS WERE

CREATED, BOTH IN THE HEAVENS AND ON EARTH, VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE, WHETHER THRONES OR DOMINIONS OR RULERS OR AUTHORITIES-ALL THINGS HAVE BEEN CREATED THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM. AND HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, AND IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER."

*** IN MATTHEW 28:18 JESUS SAID TO THE APOSTLES: (QUOTE IT).

**** IN LUKE 4:32 IT SAYS THIS ABOUT JESUS, (QUOTE IT).

(4) AND THEN IN ROMANS 1:4 IT SAYS OF CHRIST: (QUOTE IT).

* NOW CLEARLY JESUS IS THE OMNIPOTENT ONE, THE ALL MIGHTY, ALL-POWERFUL ONE.

** AND JESUS CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD, IN PART, TO DEMONSTRATE THAT POWER, TO SHOW FOR ALL WHO WOULD SEE IT THAT HE WAS INDEED THE SON OF GOD, THE PROMISED MESSIAH, THE SAVIOR, THE LORD GOD.

*** AND LUKE IN HIS GOSPEL WILL SHOW US THAT JESUS CHRIST HAS POWER OVER EVERY FACET ON EARTH.

**** THAT JESUS HAS POWER OVER DISEASE AND DEATH, SATAN AND DEMONS, NATURAL ELEMENTS, AND EVERYTHING ELSE; THEREFORE QUALIFYING HIMSELF AS THE RIGHTFUL SOVEREIGN OF THE EARTH, THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

***** AND ALL OF THOSE MIRACLES MARVELOUSLY PICTURE CHRIST'S POWER, HIS CREDENTIALS AS THE MESSIAH, THE SAVIOR, THE KING!

(5) AND THE SUPREME PROOF OF JESUS DIVINITY AND MESSIAHSHIP WAS HIS ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY AND POWER OVER EVERYTHING ON EARTH.

* AND IN OUR TEXT TODAY IN LUKE 8:22-25, JESUS DEMONSTRATES HIS UNLIMITED POWER OVER THE NATURAL WORLD AS HE STILLS A STORM ON THE SEA OF GALILEE.

(6) IN LIGHT OF THAT, I'VE TITLED THE MESSAGE TODAY, "JESUS' POWER OVER NATURE" AND UNDER THAT TITLE WE'LL LOOK AT 3 THINGS.

* NO. 1 THE PLAN OF GOD FOR THIS STORM, VV. 22&23; NO. 2 THE PANIC OF THE DISCIPLES, V. 24A; AND NO. 3 THE POWER OF JESUS OVER THIS STORM, VV. 24B&25.

** AND WITH THAT OUTLINE TO HANG YOUR THOUGHTS ON, LOOK AT V. 22 WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR FIRST POINT TODAY, THE PLAN.

I. THE PLAN, (READ V. 22)

A. NOW LUKE BEGINS HERE IN V. 22 AND NOTES THAT THE EVENT HE IS ABOUT TO TELL ABOUT TOOK PLACE "ON ONE OF THOSE DAYS."

* AND THIS INDICATES THAT LUKE'S

CHRONOLOGY HERE IS PURPOSELY INDEFINITE AND VAGUE. FOR AS MENTIONED LAST WEEK, SOMETIMES LUKE IS MORE THEMATIC THAN CHRONOLOGICAL TO ACCOMPLISH HIS INSPIRED PURPOSE OF REVEALING JESUS CHRIST AS THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR.

** AND HERE AT THIS POINT, LUKE WAS NOT FOLLOWING A STRICT TIME SEQUENCE IN THIS SECTION OF HIS GOSPEL, BUT WAS ARRANGING HIS MATERIAL THEMATICALLY.

*** NOW MARK'S PARALLEL ACCOUNT IN MARK 4:35 AND BEFORE REVEALS THAT THIS EVENT TOOK PLACE ON THE EVENING OF THE DAY THAT JESUS TAUGHT SEVERAL PARABLES, INCLUDING THAT OF THE SOILS.

**** NOW WITH THAT BACKGROUND BEFORE US, JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES GOT INTO A BOAT, PROBABLY A FISHING BOAT OWNED BY PETER, JAMES, JOHN OR ANDREW, WHO WERE FISHERMEN BEFORE JESUS CALLED THEM.

1. AND ALTHOUGH THEY HAD ALREADY BECOME

FULL TIME FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, THEY MOST LIKELY STILL HAD THEIR BOATS AS WE SEE FROM JOHN 21:3 WHERE PETER GOES FISHING ALONG WITH SOME OTHER DISCIPLES AFTER JESUS' RESURRECTION.

* AND ONE OTHER LITTLE DETAIL AND THAT IS, MARK'S PARALLEL COMPANION ACCOUNT RECORDS THAT THERE WERE OTHER SMALL BOATS ACCOMPANYING THE ONE OUR LORD WAS IN ACCORDING TO MARK 4:36.

** SO JESUS GETS INTO A BOAT AND HIS DISCIPLES FOLLOW HIM AND THE PLAN OF GOD FOR THESE DISCIPLES WILL UNFOLD THROUGH THE STORM.

*** NOW AS WE PUT THE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS TOGETHER, WHEN JESUS FINALLY GOT TO THIS BOAT IT WAS LATE EVENING.

2. AND BY THIS TIME, CHRONOLOGICALLY, IN THE ACTUAL ORDER OF EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST, MARK AND LUKE'S GOSPELS TELL US JESUS HAD ALREADY SELECTED THE 12 DISCIPLES, AND IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT A PORTION OF THEM WERE IN THE BOAT WITH HIM, THE OTHERS IN THE OTHER BOATS.

* SO HIS DISCIPLES FOLLOWED HIM, WHICH WOULD MOST LIKELY INCLUDE THE 12 AND POSSIBLY OTHERS THAT WERE STILL CHECKING JESUS OUT.

** AND SEEKING TO ESCAPE THE HUGE CROWDS THAT WERE FOLLOWING JESUS AROUND, FOR A TIME OF REST, JESUS SAID, "LET US GO OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE." AND LEAVING THE VICINITY OF CAPERNAUM ON THE NORTHWEST TIP OF THE SEA OF GALILEE, THEY WILL HEAD TOWARD A REGION KNOWN AS GERASA, ON THE EASTERN SHORE, WHERE WE WILL SEE HIM, LORD WILLING, NEXT SUNDAY IN OUR STUDY OF LUKE. WITH THAT SAID LOOK AT

V. 23 PLEASE.

B. <u>READ V. 23</u>. NOW AS JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES ARE SAILING ALONG ON THE SEA OF GALILEE, JESUS FALLS ASLEEP.

* NOW NO DOUBT JESUS WAS EXHAUSTED FROM MINISTRY, FROM A LONG DAY OF HEALING AND TEACHING, THE PHYSICAL DRAIN OF SERVING.

**** AND NOTE THAT JUST BEFORE ONE OF CHRIST'S MOST AWESOME DEMONSTRATIONS OF DEITY IN V. 24B, WE SEE A TOUCHING PICTURE OF HIS HUMANNESS.

1. THE LORD WAS SO BONE WEARY, AND HE WILL SLEEP SO SOUNDLY THAT NOT EVEN THE TOSSING OF THE BOAT, THE NOISE OF THE WIND, OR THE BLOWING WATER IN HIS FACE IN THESE OPEN BOATS AWAKENED HIM. HE HAD TO BE SOAKED AND SLEEPING, RESTING IN HIS FATHER'S HAND AND IN HIS FATHER'S PLAN.

* AND THE PLAN OF THIS GREAT STORM IS FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF HIS DISCIPLES FAITH WHICH WE'LL SEE IN V. 25 AS WE COME TO IT.

** NOW A GREAT STORM STIRS UP AS THESE BOATS ARE ON THE SEA, LIT. THE SEA OF GALILEE, ALSO CALLED THE SEA OF CHINNERETH, THE LAKE OF GENNESERAT, AND THE SEA OF TIBERIAS. ALL THOSE NAMES ARE USED FOR THE SEA OF GALILEE.

*** AND THE SEA OF GALILEE WAS ACTUALLY A LAKE, FOR IT IS ABOUT 13 MILES LONG AND 8 MILES WIDE AND ABOUT 150 FEET DEEP.

**** BUT WHAT MAKES THIS LAKE SO UNIQUE AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO STORMS IS THE FACT THAT IT IS ABOUT 680 FEET BELOW SEA LEVEL NEAR THE NORTHERN END OF THE JORDAN RIVER. AND MT. HERMON RISES 9200 FEET TO THE NORTH, AND STRONG NORTHERLY WINDS OFTEN PLUMMET DOWN THE UPPER JORDAN VALLEY WITH GREAT FORCE.

***** NOW WHEN THESE WINDS MEET THE WARMER AIR OVER THE GALILEE BASIN, THE INTENSITY IS INCREASED, HITTING THE CLIFFS ON THE EASTERN SHORE, THE WINDS SWIRL AND TWIST, CAUSING THE WATERS BENEATH THEM TO CHURN VIOLENTLY, WITH UP TO 20 FOOT WAVES.

- AND THE FACT THAT THEY CAN COME QUICKLY, AND WITH LITTLE WARNING MAKES THE STORMS ALL THE MORE DANGEROUS AND FRIGHTENING, PLUS IN THE CONTEXT OF MATTHEW 8, THE PARALLEL TEXT, IT'S AT NIGHT.

1. SO A VIOLENT STORM COULD KICK UP QUICKLY WITHOUT WARNING AND DOES AT THIS TIME.

* NOW V. 23 SAYS THAT "A FIERCE GALE OF WIND DESCENDED ON THE LAKE," – A GREAT STORM.

** AND THE WORD STORM OR TEMPEST FROM MATTHEW 8:24, THE PARALLEL TEXT IS THE GREEK WORD SEIS-MOS AND IS THE TERM FROM WHICH WE GET THE WORDS SEISMIC AND SEISMOGRAPH, WHICH IS AN INSTRUMENT USED FOR MEASURING THE INTENSITY OF EARTHQUAKES.

*** AND THEN THE WORD GREAT IN MATTHEW 8

IN FRONT OF THE WORD SEIS-MIS IS MEG-AS FROM WHICH WE GET OUR WORD MEGA, BIG.

**** SO WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS A MEGA STORM, THE STORM WAS SO VIOLENT THAT IT SHOOK THE WATER IN THE LAKE AS IF IT WERE A GLASS OF WATER IN THE HANDS OF A GREAT GIANT. IT WAS A BIG EARTHQUAKE ON THE WATER.

2. THIS WAS THE MOTHER OF ALL STORMS ON THE SEA OF GALILEE, FOR REMEMBER AMONG THE 12 ARE SOME FISHERMAN WHO PROBABLY HAVE BEEN OUT ON THIS LAKE THOUSANDS OF TIMES AND SEEN MANY STORMS, BUT THEY'RE SCARED TO DEATH AS WE'LL SEE IN V. 24 IN A FEW MINUTES.

* FOR NOTICE THAT THE STORM IS SO INTENSE THAT THIS BOAT WAS COVERED WITH WAVES, AND MARK IN HIS GOSPEL EXPLAINS IN MARK 4:37 THAT "THE WAVES WERE BREAKING OVER THE BOAT SO MUCH THAT THE BOAT WAS ALREADY FILLING UP." IT'S BAD!

** OUR TEXT IN LUKE 8:23 SAYS: "THEY BEGAN TO BE SWAMPED AND TO BE IN DANGER." AND THE GREEK WORD FOR SWAMPED MEANS TO FILL COMPLETELY, THUS THEY WERE IN GREAT DANGER. THIS WAS THE BIG ONE. THE BOAT WAS FILLING UP. AND THE DISCIPLES ARE IN A PANIC, WHICH LEADS US TO V. 24A, WHERE WE'LL SEE THE PANIC OF THE DISCIPLES. LOOK AT V. 24A PLEASE.

II. THE PANIC, (READ V. 24A)

A. NOW AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, SEVERAL OF THE TWELVE WERE FISHERMEN, PETER, ANDREWS, JAMES AND JOHN, AND THE BOAT THEY WERE IN COULD OF BEEN PETER'S AND WE CAN BE CERTAIN THEY HAD DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SAVE THEMSELVES.

* AND THEY PROBABLY WERE ALMOST AS TIRED AS JESUS BUT THEY WERE TOO AFRAID TO SLEEP. AND THEY HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN BUT TO JESUS AND SO WERE EXACTLY WHERE GOD WANTED THEM TO BE -DEPENDENT.

** I MEAN SOMETIMES THE LORD HAS TO BRING

US TO A POINT OF ABSOLUTE DESPERATION BEFORE HE CAN GET OUR ATTENTION, AND THAT IS WHAT HE DID WITH THOSE DISCIPLES WHOSE BOAT WAS ABOUT TO SINK OR BE TORN TO PIECES.

*** NOW THEY CAME TO JESUS WHICH WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO IN A STORM, AND THEY AWOKE JESUS, SO COMING AND CRYING OUT TO HIM FOR SALVATION IS RIGHT, "MASTER, MASTER, WE ARE PERISHING."

**** SO DEPENDENCE AND COMING TO JESUS IS RIGHT, BUT, BUT PANIC IN THE STORM IS WRONG. FOR IN MARK'S PARALLEL ACCOUNT IN MARK 4:38 THEY CRY OUT: "MASTER CAREST THOU NOT THAT WE PERISH".

1. AND THAT WAS A PRETTY DUMB RESPONSE. AND YOU MIGHT BE THINKING, RAY, "THAT'S PRETTY EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, YOU WERE NOT OUT IN THE STORM." TRUE BUT CONSIDER THIS.

* THEY HAD TO KNOW THAT JESUS CARED.

THEY SAW HIS COMPASSION AND POWER AS HE HEALED PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW, AS HE HEALED OTHERS WHO WERE ILL AND CAST OUT DEMONS FROM THOSE WHO WERE DEMON-POSSESSED, PLUS THE OTHER THINGS THEY SAW JESUS DO AND HOW HE ACTED.

** SO THEY SAW THE TRUTH THAT JESUS TRULY CARED. BUT THEY WERE CONSUMED WITH THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES AND PANICKED.

*** AND OH HOW MANY TIMES DOES THAT HAPPEN TO US WHEN THE STORMS OF LIFE COME, WE DO NOT FOCUS ON TRUTH, BUT FOCUS ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, RATHER THAN THE GOD WHO CONTROLS THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHO IS WORKING HIS PLAN OUT IN OUR LIVES.

**** AND WE PANIC. AND I SAY WE BECAUSE I'VE DONE IT TOO OFTEN. BUT BELIEVER I REMIND YOU THAT OUR SAVIOR CARES. AND HE MANIFESTED THAT ON THE CROSS AND MANIFESTS IT EVERYDAY IN SUPPLYING OUR NEEDS AND SUSTAINING US.

2. AND WE MUST GO BACK TO THE TRUTHS OF

WHO HE IS IN HIS CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES AND TRUST IN HIS PROVIDENTIAL WORK WHEN THE STORMS OF SICKNESS, DEATH, FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND PRESSURES COME.

* WE NEED TO REMEMBER I PETER 5:7, IT SAYS: (QUOTE IT). ALSO QUOTE PSALM 46:1&2, PSALM 55:22 AND PSALM 62:8.

** AND BELOVED, WE MUST GO BACK TO THE TRUTHS OF GOD'S WORD AND NOT ALLOW CIRCUMSTANCES TO BRING US TO PANIC. WE NEED TO CRY OUT TO OUR SAVIOR FOR HELP, BUT ALLOW HIM TO CALM OUR HEARTS FOR HE IS THE SOVEREIGN LORD. (QUOTE ISAIAH 26:3)

*** WELL, NOTICE CHRIST'S RESPONSE TO THE DISCIPLES, WHICH IS OUR THIRD AND LAST POINT TODAY. LOOK AT V. 24 AGAIN PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE THE POWER.

III. <u>THE POWER</u>, (READ 24)

A. NOW CHRIST'S POWER OVER CREATION HERE IS FANTASTIC. FOR HE STOOD UP IN THIS BOAT THAT IS BEING TOSSED ABOUT AND REBUKES THE WIND AND THE SURGING SEAS AND THEY STOPPED AND BECAME CALM.

* HE JUST CHARGED THE WINDS AND THE SEA AND THE WINDS AND THE SEA OBEYED HIM, UNLIKE HUMANS MANY TIMES. CREATION OBEYS THE CREATOR!

** NOW MARK 4:39 ACTUALLY GIVES US THE 3 WORDS THAT JESUS USED, "HUSH, BE STILL". AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, THE WIND DIED DOWN AND THE SEA BECAME PERFECTLY CALM. THERE WAS STILLNESS, CALMNESS, IT WAS PERFECTLY CALM.

*** AND NORMALLY, IF THE WIND STOPPED, THE SEA WOULD HAVE CONTINUED TO RIPPLE UNTIL THE WAVES HAD RUN THEIR COURSE.

**** BUT WHEN JESUS SAID, "HUSH", THE SEA BECAME AS GLASS. WHAT POWER!!

1. AND THOUGH SMALL IN COMPARISON TO A HURRICANE OR A TYPHOON, THAT STORM ON THE SEA OF GALILEE HAD GENERATED MULTIPLIED MILLIONS OF UNITS OF HORSEPOWER.

* YET JESUS STOPPED IT WITH A WORD, IN REALITY AN EASY FEAT COMPARED TO HIS BRINGING THE ENTIRE WORLD INTO EXISTENCE WITH A WORD.

** AND LUKE'S MESSAGE TO US IS THAT THE ONE WHO CONQUERS DISEASE ALSO CONTROLS NATURE.

*** AND NOTICE JESUS REBUKES THEM. LOOK AT V. 25 PLEASE.

B. <u>READ V. 25</u>. NOW OUR LORD REBUKES THEM IN THE MIDST OF THE STORM. I MEAN ACCORDING TO MATTHEW'S ACCOUNT HE ADDRESSES THEM BEFORE HE CALMS THE STORM.

* BUT HERE IN LUKE HE SAYS: "WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?" IN MATTHEW, "WHY ARE YOU TIMID, YOU MEN OF LITTLE FAITH?" AND NOTE THAT THE WORD TIMID IN MATTHEW HAS THE BASIC MEANING OF BEING FEARFUL OR COWARDLY.

** AND THEY WERE FEARFUL BECAUSE THEY WERE FAITHLESS, TIMID BECAUSE THEY HAD LITTLE FAITH.

*** FOR JESUS WAS IN ESSENCE SAYING TO THEM, "DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN ME AND MY POWER. HAVEN'T YOU SEEN ENOUGH OF MY POWER AND EXPERIENCED ENOUGH OF MY LOVE TO KNOW YOU ARE PERFECTLY SAFE WITH ME?

**** MEN, YOU HAVE SEEN ME PERFORM MIRACLE UPON MIRACLE, EVEN ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO NEVER TRUSTED ME OR EVEN BOTHERED TO THANK ME.

- YOU HAVE SEEN MY POWER AND MY COMPASSION AND YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BECAUSE OF MY POWER I CAN HELP YOU. AND THAT BECAUSE OF MY COMPASSION I WILL HELP YOU.

1. AND EVEN THINK OF IT THIS WAY, FOR THE TRUE DISCIPLE, TO DROWN WOULD HAVE

* SO JESUS WAS SAYING WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT? MEN DON'T PANIC, HAVE FAITH, TRUST IN ME AND MY GOODNESS AND PROVIDENTIAL WAYS. BUT THE DISCIPLES DID NOT TRUST HIM. AND NOTICE WHAT THESE MEN SAY IN THE REST OF V. 25. THEY WERE FEARFUL AND AMAZED SAYING ONE TO ANOTHER, "WHO THEN IS THIS THAT HE COMMANDS EVEN THE WINDS AND WATER AND THEY OBEY HIM?"

** NOW THE MEN MARVELED AT THE POWER OF JESUS. AND THE WORD MARVELED OR AMAZED REFERS TO EXTREME AMAZEMENT, TO BE WONDERED AT, TO BE HELD IN ADMIRATION.

*** AND THEIR VERBAL RESPONSE WAS, WHAT KIND OF MAN IS THIS, THAT EVEN THE WINDS AND SEA OBEY HIM?

** AND THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION WHAT KIND OF MAN IS THIS IS HE'S THE <u>GOD-MAN</u>!

*** AND NOT ONLY WERE THEY AMAZED, THEY WERE FEARFUL AND ACCORDING TO MARK'S ACCOUNT IN MARK 4:41, THE DISCIPLES WERE "VERY MUCH AFRAID". FOR DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S MORE FEARFUL THAN BEING IN A STORM IN A BOAT?

**** IT'S REALIZING THAT GOD IS IN YOUR BOAT, THAT YOU'RE STANDING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LIVING GOD!

1. AND WE TOO WOULD BE OVERWHELMED WITH GOD'S HOLINESS IF WE WERE LIT. AND PHYSICALLY STANDING IN HIS PRESENCE TODAY.

* AND THE DISCIPLES KNEW THAT GOD WAS WITH THEM, AND THAT REALITY WITH THEIR LACK OF FAITH WAS TERRIFYING, HEBREWS 10:31 SAYS: (QUOTE IT). ** AND FOR THE DISCIPLES TO BE WITH THE HUMAN COMPASSIONATE JESUS WAS FINE; BUT BEING WITH THE POWERFUL AND SUPERNATURAL SON OF GOD TERRIFIED THEM, HIS POWER AND HOLINESS BROUGHT THEM TO A STATE OF MARVEL AND FEAR.

AND IN APPLICATION AND CLOSING TODAY: (1) THE BELIEVER WHO IS AWARE OF GOD'S POWER AND LOVE HAS NO REASON TO BE AFRAID OF ANYTHING. OH THERE NEEDS TO BE A HOLY FEAR AND REVERENCE OF OUR HOLY AND POWERFUL GOD. ISAIAH 41:10, PSALM 27:1, PSALM 118:6.

* AND THE ALMIGHTY WHO BOTH CAN AND WILL TAKE CARE OF HIS CHILDREN COMMUNICATES TO US, THERE IS NO HARDSHIP OR DANGER THROUGH WHICH HE CANNOT OR WILL NOT TAKE US.

** GOD'S POWER, LOVE AND THE TRUTH OF HIS BEING WILL SEE US THROUGH ANY STORM, AND THAT IS THE ESSENCE OF WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW AND CONSIDER WHEN WE ARE IN TROUBLE.

*** AND WE MUST LEARN NOT TO DISCONNECT TRUTH FROM OUR CIRCUMSTANCES. WE MUST LEARN TO STAND ON THE PROMISES OF GOD AND NOT BE FAITHLESS. WE MUST CONTINUE TO MEDITATE AND ENGRAFT THE WORD OF GOD IN OUR LIVES AND CAST OUR CARES UPON THE ONE WHO CARES FOR US. PSALM 16:8

**** WE MUST SET THE LORD ALWAYS BEFORE US, THAT HE IS IN OUR CONSCIOUSNESS AND THAT WE THEN OPERATE OUT OF CONVICTION OF THAT TRUTH, NOT OUR EMOTIONS FOR THE MOMENT.

(2) AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DO NOT KNOW THE ALL-MIGHTY SAVIOR, YOUR NEED TODAY IS TO SEE YOUR SIN AND THAT JESUS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FORGIVE YOU, AND CRY OUT FOR HIS MERCY TODAY IN REPENTANCE SAYING, "LORD, SAVE ME". AND IF YOU TRULY DO THAT FROM THE HEART YOU WILL BE SAVED, QUOTE ROMANS 10:13.

(2) I CLOSE WITH PSALM 107:23-30. AND I WOULD ASK THAT YOU TURN THERE. FOR THESE VERSES, GIVEN A LONG TIME BEFORE THIS STORM THAT WE STUDIED ON THE SEA OF GALILEE, WERE LITERALLY FULFILLED IN THE LIVES OF THE DISCIPLES THAT DAY.

* AND YOU KNOW WHAT? THESE TRUTHS CAN BE TRUSTED AND STOOD UPON AS THE PROMISES OF GOD EVERYDAY. (READ THEM AND PRAY).