

Kingdom and Conflict: A Walk in the (Water) Park

Mark 6: 45-56

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May 14, 2017

Introduction: Did Jesus walk on ice?
Did Jesus walk on tapioca?
Did Jesus walk on sedimentary debris?
To say Jesus walked on water is a faith statement.
The skeptic has to answer the question did everything come from nothing?
To say that everything came from nothing is also a faith statement
In fact – more faith than to believe a historical record

I. The Miracle

a. Review

- i. Jesus fed 5,000 men besides the women and the children.**
- ii. In juxtaposition to beheading of John the Baptist**

b. Dismissed

- i. Jesus dismissed the disciples to their boat to cross over to the other side of the sea of Galilee.**
- ii. Jesus dismissed the crowd – John has the most complete account.**
- iii. Jesus was then left alone.**

c. Disengaged

- i. Jesus sized the opportunity to be alone.**
- ii. Jesus retreated even further by going up on the mountain – He went to be alone with His heavenly Father.**
- iii. Jesus would often take opportunities such as this to be alone with His Father.**
- iv. This perspective adds to the agony of the cross.**
- v. Jesus hungered for solitude with the Godhead but on the cross – though there was relative solitude – Jesus would call out and hear only the silence of condemnation back.**
- vi. Jesus was invisible to the disciples – by virtue of distance – but the disciples were never out of Jesus' view.**
- vii. We never saw Jesus on the cross – but we were never out of Jesus' sight.**
- viii. An argument from greater to lesser: if Jesus went to solitude to pray – how much more . . .**

d. Difficulty

- i. Another storm hit the sea of Galilee.**
- ii. The disciples were having trouble making progress.**
- iii. Somewhere between 3 and 6 AM, Jesus set out walking on the water.**
- iv. He approached the boat, though He meant to pass them by.**

e. Drama

- i. The disciples thought they were seeing a ghost.**
- ii. They were afraid.**
- iii. Jesus speaks and enters the boat – problem solved.**

II. Take Away

- a. Be careful about asking for miracles.**
- b. The Immanuel-ness of Jesus**
- c. Why the proximity of feeding 5,000 and walking on water.**
- d. A story of redemption**