

MATTHEW 8:25 – LORD, SAVE US! WE ARE PERISHING!

9/26/15 Sat Morn Prayer – ptwente@gmail.com

Mat 8:23-27 Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. [24] And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. [25] Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" [26] But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked (epitimao – to express strong disapproval of someone, rebuke, reprove, censure, speak seriously, warn in order to prevent an action or bring on to an end) the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. [27] So the men marveled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey (hupakouo – to follow instructions, obey, follow, be subject to, of the enforced obedience of hostile spirits or powers, they are force to obey Him) Him?"

Biblical Background: -

- In Chapter Seven - The King's Power; **Matthew 8-9 - Healing, Teaching, and Miracles**
- We have been introduced to the person of the King (Matt. 1-4); principles of the King (Matt. 5-7); and now the power of the King.
- Why did our Lord perform miracles? Certainly He wanted to meet human needs.
- Certainly our Lord's miracles were additional credentials to prove His claim as the Messiah of Israel
- A third reason was His concern to reveal saving truth to people.
- So far in this chapter we have seen the healing by Jesus of the leper; a Centurion's servant; Peter's mother-in-law; many healed after Sabbath sunset.

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- Christ had given sailing orders to his disciples ([Mat 8:18](#)), that they should depart to the other side of the sea of Tiberias, into the country of Gadara.
- True disciples of Christ are those willing to go to sea with Him; to follow Him into dangers and difficulties. Many would be content to go the land-way to heaven, that will rather stand still, or go back, than venture upon a dangerous sea; but those that would rest with Christ in the hereafter must follow Him now wherever He leads them, into a ship or into a prison, as well as into a palace.
- The peril and perplexity of the disciples in this voyage; and in this appeared the truth of what Christ had just now said, that those who follow Him must count upon difficulties, [Mat 8:20](#). There arose a very great storm, One would have expected, that having Christ with them, they should have had very favorable winds, but it is quite otherwise; for Christ would show that they who are passing with Him over the ocean of this world to the other side, must expect storms by the way.
- Jesus Christ was asleep in this storm. This was a sleep, not of security, like Jonah's in a storm, but of holy serenity, and dependence upon His Father: He slept to show that He was really and truly man, and subject to the sinless infirmities of our nature:
- Those that can lay their heads upon the pillow of a clear conscience, may sleep quietly and sweetly in a storm ([Psa 4:8](#)), as Peter, [Act 12:6](#).
- Jesus slept at this time, to try the faith of His disciples, whether they could trust Him when He seemed to slight them. He slept not so much with a desire to be refreshed, as with a design to be awaked. ARE YOU ABLE TO SLEEP DURING STORMS?
- The poor disciples were used to the sea; knew its dangers and were greatly afraid! In their fear they came to their Master, [Mat 8:25](#). Where else should they go? It was wonderful they had Him so near them. They awoke Him with their prayers; **Lord, save us, we are perishing!**
- All who would learn to pray must go to sea. Imminent and sensible dangers will drive people to Him who alone can help in time of need.
- Their prayer has life in it, **Lord, save us, we are perishing!** Their petition is, **Lord, save us.** They believed He could save them; they begged He would, Christ's errand into the world was to save, but those only shall be saved that call on the name of the Lord, [Act 2:21](#). They call Him, Lord, and then pray, Save us. Note, Christ will save none but those that are willing to take Him for their Lord; for He is a Prince and a Savior. Their plea is, **We are perishing!**; which was,
 - The power and grace of Jesus Christ put forth for their help: then the Lord Jesus awaked, He rebuked the disciples ([Mat 8:26](#)); **Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?** He does not chide them for disturbing Him with their prayers, but for disturbing themselves with their fears. Christ reproveth them first, and then delivered them; this is His method, to prepare us for a mercy, and then to give it us.
 - His dislike of their fears; "**Why are you fearful?** You, my disciples? Let the sinners in Zion be afraid, let heathen mariners tremble in a storm, but not you! Why are you afraid?

- His discovery of the cause and spring of their fears; *O you of little faith*. Many that have true faith are weak in it, and it does but little.
- He *rebukes the wind*; the former He did as the God of *grace*, and the Sovereign of the heart, who can do what He pleases *in* us; this He did as the God of *nature*, the Sovereign of the world, who can do what He pleases *for* us. It is the same *power that stills the noise of the sea*, and the tumult of fear, [Psa_65:7](#).
- We see **how easily this was done, with a word's speaking**. Moses commanded the waters with a rod; Joshua, with the ark of the covenant; Elisha, with the prophet's mantle; but Christ with a word. See **His absolute dominion** over all the creatures, which bespeaks both His honor, and the happiness of those that have Him on their side.
- Also, **how effectually it was done? There was a great calm**, all of a sudden. Ordinarily, after a storm, there is such energy in the waves, it takes some time for them to settle. But if Christ speaks the word, not only the storm ceases, but all the effects of it, all the remains of it. We can experience the same regarding our great storms of doubt, and fear in the soul and experience His peace, which passes understanding.
- This excited their astonishment ([Mat_8:27](#)); *The men marveled*. They had been long acquainted with the sea, and never saw a storm so immediately turned into a perfect calm, in all their lives. It has all the marks and signatures of a miracle upon it; *it is the Lord's doing, and is marvelous in their eyes*.
- Their admiration of Christ; *What manner of Man is this!*
- The reason of it; *Even the winds and the sea obey Him*. Upon this account, Christ is to be admired, that He has a commanding power even over *winds and seas*. Others pretended to cure diseases, but He only undertook to command *the winds*. He who can do this, can do anything!
- A woman said to D.L. Moody, "I have found a wonderful promise!" and she quoted [Psa 56:3](#) "*Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.*" "Let me give you a better one," said Moody; and he quoted "[Isa 12:2](#) *'Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.'* "

SUMMARY: What to do in times of great danger, when in the will of God?

- All who would learn to pray must go to sea. Imminent and sensible dangers will drive people to Him who alone can help in time of need.
- Even when in the will of God, our faith may be tested and increased by being put in fearful situations!
- Who do we trust? Who do we turn to? How strong is our faith?
- We need to pray, believing that He is able!
- Save me Oh Lord, for I am perishing!
- Jesus may say, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?"
- Rest assured, He is able to deliver me!

"Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior – Frances J. Crosby

1. *Pass me not, O gentle Savior, Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.*
 - *Refrain:*
Savior, Savior, Hear my humble cry, While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.
2. *Thou the spring of all my comfort, More than life to me,
Whom have I on earth beside Thee, Whom in Heav'n but Thee. (Refrain – 2X)*

"Amazing Grace" - Newton

1. *Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.*
2. *'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.*
3. *When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.*

SAT MORN PRAYER GUIDELINES:

We all want to receive instruction from the teaching in Biblical prayers and for the prayer time be effective, being led by the Holy Spirit. To that end:

- Please be on time at 6:30am to receive the blessings of the weekly prayers in the Bible.
- If you are late, **simply agree in prayer and refrain from praying** in group prayer and **wait until the small group** prayer time.
- Those who pray aloud during the prayer meeting portion, **please keep the prayers short (2-3 minutes)** praying as led by the Holy Spirit. There is only about a 30 minute period for 15 or so to pray.
- **Intercessory prayer** (church, country, leaders) **during group time**; **personal** prayer during small group time.
- **Welcome times of silence** during the group prayer time as we wait on the Holy Spirit.