

slept; I awake, for God sustained me. I will not be afraid of 10,000 people that have set themselves against me around about." Psalm 3.

A Scottish martyr who was a noble Christian, with the sentence of death, about to be executed, he was slumbering peacefully within a few hours of his death, which revealed that he held no fear even for those who would put him to death.

<sup>23</sup> Now Jesus was fast asleep in the stern of the ship, and we next turn our attention to a great storm. The peaceful scene was not to last long for the sea of Galilee, they tell us is famous for sudden storms. It is located 682 feet below the Mediterranean. It's hot air draws a storm with sudden power from Mt. Herman down into the valley. Undoubtedly, these disciples were familiar with these violent upheavals, these cyclonic storms.

The waves were beating and rolling over the side of the boat so vigorously that the boat was filled with water, and yet Jesus is here pictured as being asleep.

Jesus sleeps in the midst of this storm. Was there real danger? Yes, to human eyes, very real. The eyes of the fishermen who had known the water all of their lives practically. It was real danger, and they were afraid for them-

Intro: The (headlines) of the newspaper, the radio, the television newscast, have all been colored in the past weeks with a raging storm. Hurricane Carla has passed across the state of Texas and on up north, covering about a 200 mile strip, destroying homes, crops, livestock, and even to the count of beyond 30 individuals who have met death through this hurricane.

Port O'Conner a little town on the coast, where about 950 people lived, met with destruction, and all of the homes, the stores, the businesses, all that was left was the First Baptist Church which lost one of its doors and some of the shingles. Tragic indeed.

Many accounts of close calls, of how the storm raged through one day, two days, three days, day and night with the raging wind, the water, the rain, the tide destroying everything in its way. The account of one man who went down to Galveston, who thought that he would go down to the water and fish a little bit ahead of the storm, was waught by the rising tide, and had to take his refuge on top of a cowshed. There he spent the best part of three days with rain and wind and tide swirling about. The cowshed stood, he said the animals tried to climb on,

and he spent that time praying and wondering if he'd get out alive, until at last he made his way up to a little higher place and there found a small shelter from the rain and the wind, and shortly thereafter he was rescued by the Coast Guard, or some group who were out looking for stranded individuals. Certainly if you would ask him, he would say the storms of life are raging, because through those days, he did not know whether he'd get out alive or not.

What about the storms of life in your life and my life. I want us to look at a simple story in the New Testament taken out of the life of Jesus which I believe has a point for each of us today.

35 Verse 35. It is (nighttime), and Jesus said, "Let's go over to the other side." He takes his leave of the scribes and Pharisees, and he says, as he addressed the crowd on the highway, "Let us push out and let us cross over now to the other side." Therefore they make plans.

They board a (ship.) On that same day in the evening, they board this ship and they put off from the shore, still with some of their friends, they go out across the sea of Galilee.

36 We must note at this point that there were several other little ships. There were some disciples who wanted to be

close to Jesus, even as he was in the boat, and they were glad if they could but be along with him. We know that if you visualize this silent fleet making its way across the lake with an occasional splash of water disturbing the peacefulness of the scene...

38 We see Jesus next fast asleep, he went down into the stern of the ship, got him a cushion and fell asleep, at that point someone would ask why should Jesus sleep, why did he have to sleep? Was he not capable of staying awake constantly?

Matthew Henry said "He slept to show that he was man." He slept because he was human, because his human life was real, and not merely play-acted. He ate when he was hungry for food when he was thirsty, he received water. When his friends were grieved he wept with them. When they rejoiced, he was glad in his spirit. So here, when he was tired, he slept. Jesus was true man, but he was also God. And here we find Jesus fast asleep. We know that other individuals have slept during great storms. For example, Peter whom Herod has imprisoned, and he was waiting to be brought forth to death any moment. But he was fast asleep in the dungeon when the angel delivered him, as told in Acts 12:6.

David was lying down resting. He said, "I laid me down a

Now we

First, we want to see some of the lessons that can be brought out of this story.

I. Why are you fearful?

They were afraid, sure enough, and why were they? They belonged to Jesus, and Jesus owned and controlled the wind, and pressing this question may be embarrassing. Do you not have faith? It seems that they were more afraid after the storm had been stilled than they were before. They feared a great fear, and they talked one to another marveling at the man whom even the wind and the sea obey. And there we have a majestic scene, because these disciples had fear of Jesus.

Why are you fearful?

Fear paralyzes our faith. Jesus rebuked unbelief, and put fear to flight. Faith is the conquering and the opposite of fear. How like is unbelief in every age. We've been disturbed.

They had trusted to Jesus their souls and their lives and their all. And yet they forgot all of this in a moment of panic...natural human fear.

For unbelief is always the same confused, feeble, sinful thing. You have received Christ as your Saviour. You have known his great salvation. And yet, you let any sudden squall or storm arise, and you begin to cry out as though you were

selves. It was very natural fear that they had at this time. The Bible says "a great storm of wind" as it is called...waves beating on the ship, and the water filling the ship.

They were (panic stricken) and they decided to come to Jesus in their terror. They didn't even think about abstaining from (disturbing him). They could not wait any longer, and it was natural that they should come to Jesus, and they said,

"We are perishing, don't you care?"

v.38

They awoke him, "Lord save us, we perish." Now Jesus was (unmoved) by the piercing wind. Jesus was unmoved by the great waves, he arose calmly. The son of man had been sleeping, the son of God awakes. And before he says anything to the disciples, he does not even answer their question. He paid no attention to them at all.

v.39

He looked down at the waves, he looked up into the heaven and he rebuked the wind, and he said those blessed words that mean so much to us today, "Peace, be still."

These marvelous words need to be heard when the storm of life are raging. When there is a storm of life in your home in your business, wherever you are, wouldn't it be wonderful if you could hear the voice of Jesus saying, "Peace, be still."

The winds ceased, the raging of the water was at an end.

What a revelation of God in man. Here is great power portrayed.

In what condition is a man more helpless than in a storm at sea, in a frail boat when the elements are moving about him...his boat is like a straw in the waters, with death seeming to open her mouth upon him. But here is a man asleep in a boat. Its rapidly filling with water, and its at the point of going down, such and so helpless did Jesus seem the one moment, and the next he stands to speak to the elements. And of course, they said, "What manner of man is he?"

The word rebuke here describes and suggests a whole lot to us, its very figuratively. We remember that Jesus spoke many other times, and it is said in one place, "He rebuked the fever and it left her." A disturbance of nature in hostile operation, as this on the sea, and Jesus spoke and put an end to it. And Jesus can speak to sin in a man's life and put an end to it.

Storms, earthquakes, famines, calamities, disaster, hurricanes, are overtaking men from all sides of nature. Part of the confusion and disorder in this world is brought about by the storms that rage. And yet when Jesus takes care of this situation here, we see that he rebuked the

wind just at one word.

At one word we remember God said, "Let there be light." And then there was light. And we know that when he spoke the word, darkness was gone. We also witness that when Jesus spoke to a man in sin that sin was dispelled and sin was gone, and I imagine there are hearts today that yearn under the worlds ills and sorrow, to listen for Jesus' voice saying, "Peace, be still."

Jesus then turned to his disciples and rebuked and corrected them as well as stilling the storm. The disciples needed correcting as much as the storm needed to be calmed. He had collected his power, and he corrected his disciples for their want of faith. And he also spoke to them about their fear. It does not imply that they were absolutely faithless. This could not be. They said, "Master, save us." and the fact that they said, "Save us", expressed faith that they believed that there was hope in Christ, and they trusted in him. It was (not that they had no faith), but like one who has a piece, though in sudden panic, he forgets that faith, and it was bad for them. They believed in Jesus Christ, they had left all to follow him, but in (a moment) when the storms of life were raging, they became weak.



The worst enemy of your life is perverted fear. I say perverted because basically fear may be good. Only a fool is fearless, and because a student fears an examination, he prepares for it. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Proverbs 1:7

But when <sup>fear</sup> ~~faith~~ is perverted, it paralyzes and destroys our faith, and our life. Jesus told of a man who buried his talent in the ground. "I was afraid," he said. His talent was taken away from him and he was called an unprofitable servant. Matt. 25:25. There are a vast number of people today who live an unprofitable life simply because they are paralyzed by fear.

Fear causes a lot of misery—sin, sickness, and all of these combined. But most people are afraid of something or somebody all the time. Why are ye so fearful, asked Christ.

II. Is there anything that Jesus cannot master? Are there any raging storms in life that Jesus cannot control? What would you say? When the winds and the waves obey him, are not your times in his hands? Do you not believe in his love? Do you not believe in his faithfulness? Do you not believe that his promises will stand sure and that Christ is able to dispel all of this fear and that he can master everything in your life?

III. All of us are on a voyage. That is to say, as Jesus and his disciples were on this voyage on the sea of Galilee, so we are on the voyage of (life). We are here on the sea of life and we will (not get across) without storms. Some of us may have fewer than others. But we must recognize, that as we journey on this voyage, this sea of life, that we are going to be in the midst of storms now and then. For you are born into this world, you go through youth and attend school, and it is not long before you are (out facing) the world with a job marriage, and shortly old age comes on, retirement, and all these things will present to you some perplexing days.

Now some sailors get (easy) winds and sunny days, and they prosper on their voyages, and they are happy that they escape the storm. And on the other hand there are ships that are ill-piloted or that have some mishap, and they scramble for life. It is not unusual for us to read about a (shipwreck) and the weather condition had something to do with voyage, and so we are on a voyage, and we must recognize this, that perhaps this voyage will move us through, conduct us through raging storms.

across the church, they will not extinguish it, but Christ will arise and he will come forth to be Lord over things.

As Christ stood on the deck of a storm-tossed little ship, surrounded by this group of men, he calmly said, "Peace, be still." Christ is adequate and all the fear of the men were <sup>their</sup> gone. Not only were/~~the~~ fears of the particular storm conquered, but also their fears of the future storms. They knew that as long as they had Christ with them, they need not be afraid of the raging storms.

Long before the psalmist learned that same truth, he said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death," That refers not to just the experience of death, it refers to the crises in life. "I will fear no evil" Why? "For thou art with me."

Now (this faith does not mean) that everytime a storm arises that we will call on God and he will immediately quiet it. Sometimes Christ says to the winds and the waves, "Peace, be still." But at other times he may say it to the person. Sometimes he changes our situation, at other times he changes us. Once in a while, God removes the mountain that may be in our way, at other times he may enable us to walk over top of that mountain. As Paul said, "I can do all things through

He worries about it, due to his training or his lack of ability. What is the person going to do when sickness comes, when they are faced with the proposition that they might die?

When you lose your confidence, you then have faith, you're not afraid that you won't get back home today, are you? You know the way, and you think your car will not break down. Even if you would get lost, you would find some familiar street, someone would give you direction, there is no fear about that.

But life often gets us into places that we do not know the way. We are in situations where our resources are insufficient and we know of no one to call upon to help us. How are we going to conquer this fear?

(Unless we take Jesus) into the ship with us, then I'm fearful that when the storms of life are raging, we will be in serious trouble. When Paul came into Corinth, no one paid any attention to him. The Chamber of Commerce, did not give him a banquet, no brass band met him, no literary society or civic club invited him to address their meeting, but he came into the midst of the affairs of that city, into that world crisis in the day in which he lived,--and changes were taking place more rapidly than men could record them. The religion of Judaism was passing. It was a crisis in world politics. The Roman eagle which had spread out over the world was crumbling...crisis in social affairs. But here was Paul who came in and said, "The answer

to your problem is Jesus Christ, and he said, "O death where is thy sting, O grave, where is thy victory. Thanks be unto God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

With Jesus in the ship, we know that Christ is the central part of everything...the land where he was born, where he lived where he died, where he arose again, from which he ascended to heaven, is the center of our world map.. To the near east, to the Oriental, it is the near west.

We know that Christ is at the center of all history, and he marks history with B.C. and A.D. in the year of our Lord. Jesus Christ, every time we date a letter, we put him at the center.

There was even a (heathen temple) erected Shanghai in 1927, where they worshipped not God. And they erected over the door, "Erected A.D. 1927."

Christ is at the center of the New Testament. Christ is the center of the cross. Christ is the center of our literature. You put a world map on this table with your Bible, and you put a cross upon Palestine, and you take your Bible of all the languages, and each one of them will direct you straight to the cross of Christ.

So we need Jesus on the ship with us in this journey.

V. Christ is adequate for every raging storm.

These disciples could not be ignorant of Jesus and what he was doing. The prophets of the Lord had in former times dealt with diseases and suffering and even death, and now they witness of Jesus, has dealt with the mysteries of nature, and has even had the power to speak to the wind and wave. And they were questioning among themselves about the son of man, the son of God.

But he is adequate because the power belongs to him to defend his cause and his people from all danger. If we as Christians could rest in this wonderful truth.

We should also know that he is adequate because of his perpetual presence with us in our church, and with us as individuals. His bodily sleep did not make any real difference. His cause can never flounder or be wrecked, for he is ever with it. The church is a sacred ark, tossed to and fro with the waters of time, beat upon by many storms, swept by many waves, all but wrecked often, not so much by rocks and exterr but many times by confusions and contentions, the panics of i own crew. Christ may appear to be asleep. He may appear to be absent from the church altogether, and yet when the waves of deism, rationalism, of modernism, of infidelities, sweep



was May of 1961, --this year. She said during the early hours of May 1, a tremendous storm hit the town of Denton, Texas, 36 miles north of Fort Worth. The winds were estimated at 70-80 miles per hour, and damage was untold to every business in that city. She wrote this letter to the radio commission. Her husband was a week-end pastor. "My husband and I always listen to the Baptist Hour on our way home from church near Bonham. We enjoy the music and sermon each week, but last Sunday night, we received spiritual strength and help we had never felt before. Sunday night about 11:15, we were caught on the highway between McKinney and Denton during the storm that flashed through Denton with 80 mile and hour winds and rain. We were completely isolated in the middle of nowhere, with the wind rocking the car and the rain beating the windows. During all of this bedlam, Jo Ann Shelton's voice came through loud and clear, like a lullaby to our two children who were asleep.

"When the storms of life are raging, stand by me,  
 When the storms of life are raging, stand by me,  
 When the world is tossing me like a ship upon  
 the sea,  
 Thou who rulest winds and water, stand by me.

In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me;  
 When I do the best I can, and my friends misunderstand.  
 Thou who knowest all about me, stand by me.

Christ which strengtheneth me." He knew that no storm could defeat him at all, because he knew Christ.

If we know Christ, then we know that he is adequate for every need. A musician might study the compositions of Beethoven (Ba'toven) oven until he learned them. Then he knows Beethoven, the composer. Well, the musician might hear Beethoven play, and as a result, come to know him not only as a composer, but as a performer. Then he might know him in a third way, by personal acquaintance, and through companionship and friendship but no one will really know the great Beethoven, until he knows him in all three ways.

The same thing is true with Jesus. The Psalmist said, "The heavens declare the glory of God." Psalm 19:1 The spiritual presence of God with an individual, in knowing that Christ is right there with us. Christ is sufficient and adequate for every raging storm of life. When there is a personal problem in your life, when there is sin, sorrow, sickness, suffering Christ is sufficient, for all of this. No man, however sinful he is, God will not cast him out, but we know that he welcomes him to come unto him.

In a southern city, there was a labor strike. It was raging for a third time within a year. the conferences, the deadlock for days. One morning they gathered, one man said this, "I

feel that we have left something out of this conference, without which we never can agree. We have not prayed for divine wisdom and guidance. I suggest that we kneel before our chairs and ask God to help us to be unselfish, and ask him to help bring our minds and hearts together." All the others agreed immediately. They prayed one after another. In 10 minutes after the prayer ended, they signed a contract which has lasted now for many years. The same thing is true in human relationships, and if we will take him into the raging storms of life, he will direct our path.

The old story of the (continental congress) working for hours without success. When the aged Benjamin Franklin arose to say "Mr. President, I am convinced that we cannot reach agreements without that wisdom which comes from above". I have long observed the affairs of men in this regard. I suggest that we pause for prayer. It was done. Guidance was given, the United States of America was born. Yes, God has revealed in the grace and glory of his son Jesus Christ, can settle the raging storms and affairs of human life.

When this old world rocks under wickedness, the rumbles of war, the roar of rockets, missiles, outer space, and we see helpless men, women, and children, all as a result of man having

forsaken God. We must confess that there is fear in hearts today, and yet what hope is there.

During World War I, a messenger was sent out to an outpost of American Soldiers. They went to that little village and they found it was laid in waste by a barrage of artillery. One stone was left upon another except the front wall of the village church. And on the top of that wall stood a cross, amidst all the confusion round about, the cross was untouched what a scene! It was such a scene as that cross, over in China, years ago, that ~~there~~ the city had fallen, the old church had tumbled, and yet there was a cross, and people surged to come to that cross, and Sir John Bowring while fleeing from the vengeance of man, during the Opium War, wrote the immortal lines:

"In the cross of Christ I glory  
 Towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
 All the light of sacred story  
 Gathers round its head sublime."

In Fort O'Conner, Texas, ~~the~~ Hurricane Carla had just passed through, everything was wiped out, there was one thing standing, that little white Baptist Church, stood amidst the storm.

I read this very thrilling story, by Mrs. Bailey Rowe, who wrote from Fort Worth, Texas. She wrote this to the Baptist Hour, that is beamed out across the countryside, and this

When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me  
When my life becomes a burden, and I'm nearing  
chilly Jordan,  
Oh, thou lily of the valley, stand by me."

She said, "I can still hear her voice, and remember the  
comfort those words brought to my troubled mind. God was  
standing by us, and my husband decided that all we could  
do was to turn the car

V. 41 *Even wind & sea obey*

Grove Park July 22, 1990 P.M. ✓✓✓

80 W. Feb 12, 84 P.M. - "✓"

May, 71

S. May - June 7, 64 P.M. -

S. May - June 17 1911 P.M. -

Skimmed - Story told  
 me of farmer - told the  
 wife in a sit down & he  
 wife crying - Don't cry of  
 horse - why cry about  
 it - why cry -  
 said - "Alas" -  
 - 10<sup>th</sup> time we have  
 ridden in 4 years!

The storms of life are RAGING - MK 4:35 #1

Atlantic City - you had storm Beat -  
 Headline - Newspaper, Radio - Raging Storm EARLA  
 200 mi. - Home - 30 - Canton Va. B. lightning  
 Port O'CONNOR - 9:50 - storm - 1st Reg. ch -  
EARLESTON - fishing - tide - cowshead - PRAYER, only find  
 some pray.

What about the storms in your life?

V. 35 (Night-time) = Pass over -  
 36 Ship - funds : Little Ships - silent fleet.

(38 FAST Asleep) Cushion Why Should Jesus Sleep?

Matt. Henry - "He slept to show that he was man"  
 Real Human, hungry, thirsty, grinded, rejoiced, tired

Slept During Storm; Peter - prison - angel  
 David - trial sustained,  
 Scottish Martyr - slumber before  
 PJ with.

V. 37

Great Storm: peaceful scene - Earlikee sudden st

Wind - waves - filled -

Was There Real DANGER? Human eyes.

Fishermen - Panic - 1933 Hurricane KI Bay Sea - down  
 cover beds etc trees

Called Jesus - Not wait - Don't you call?

removed - Looked ON Waves  
 " up Heaven.

39 Marvellous Words: Peace, Be Still!

What Condition is a Man more Helpless?

Storm - sea - boat -  
Today! Storms, earthquakes, famines, disaster  
One Word: Peace. God "Let there be light."  
troubled heart - listen -

40

I Why Are You Fearful? 40

Fear Paralyzes Faith - sudden squalls of life -  
British pub. Book "If I could preach only once" -  
S. Chasterton - "Preach against fear"  
Birth of Jesus - Angel - "fear not!"  
Burning tablet - "I was afraid" -

II IS THERE ANYTHING THAT JESUS CANNOT MASTER?

Storms - winds -

III ALL OF US ARE ON A VOYAGE

Life - Not cross without Storms -  
world, Job, Marriage, old age, retirement,  
some - Easy winds - sunny days - ill-piloted -  
Shipwreck -

IV A Question For You

Is X with you in your ship?

Red said:  
young college  
student - perfection, it was done -  
Bills by month full -  
Invited God in -  
Peace, quiet, No trembling -

Sichuan - Paul (Corinth), No clamor  
commerce welcome, literary society - say "I"  
There is my sting - grave -  
X center of history - B.C. - A.D  
Shanghai - 1927 Haden Temple - "Emi"

V Christ IS ADEQUATE FOR EVERY THING

Perpetual Presence - possibly ship,  
church - confusion, contentions, infir  
Paradise - "yes, though I walk through  
Not Mean - Every time A Storm X G  
X may speak winds - Peace -  
" " " Reason -

Storms That are Personal - sin, sorrow  
suffering.

Labor Strike - Requiring 3 times of  
Deadlock, Man, left something out, swim  
knud by ch - unselfish, mind, hearts to go

Continental Congress - hours - m  
Benj. Franklin - Mr. President - not a  
without wisdom - above. suggest we  
Guilane was given, mistel sta