

## Matthew 14:22-33 Blessings from a Storm

Introduction: Why would a storm come upon those seeking to carry out the will of the Lord? Those were not lawless, wicked men. The storm came for a blessing on the disciples.

### I. That if might teach the disciples that service to Christ is not easy.

- A. This they already understood to some extent.
  - 1. Jesus had said, "The Son of man hath not where to lay His head."  
(Following would not be easy.)
  - 2. They could see nothing difficult about this particular task.  
("Go and wait for me." Little did they know.)
- B. Neither is it easy to carry out His work today. (Let light shine, teach bible truths, carry the gospel, forgive, to face temptation, persecution.)

### II. That it might teach the disciples that they were responsible only for carrying out the Lord's instructions.

- A. They were not responsible for the storm, only for seeking to go where Jesus instructed.  
(They rowed with all there might.)
- B. We are not responsible for a lot of hindrances today.
  - 1. Like the hardness of men's hearts and the interference that Satan brings.
  - 2. We are responsible only for our faithfulness to the task assigned.

### III. It helped to teach the disciples faith in Jesus.

- A. They already trusted Jesus for salvation, but needed to learn to trust Jesus for daily care.  
(All of their strength and skills were nothing against the storm; but the storm was no problem for Jesus.)
- B. Our own faith is strengthened after all our human resources are exhausted.  
(There is none to help but the Lord.)

### IV. It gave the disciples opportunity to see greater things from the Lord.

- A. They saw Jesus walk on stormy waters.  
(They would not have seen without being in the storm.)
- B. We cannot see the Lord's power to deliver without winds of opposition and storms of life.

### V. It helped prepare the disciples to attempt greater things.

- A. The apostle Peter immediately attempted to also walk on the water.
- B. Jesus would soon assign what would seem an impossible task, carrying the gospel to the world. (They readily undertook it.)
- C. This is still our task today.

Conclusion: Our storms are to strengthen our faith and to encourage us to be faithful to the work.

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