

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
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Series #4 - LIVING ABOVE OUR FEARS

“FEAR NOT - Even in the STORMS OF LIFE”

Matthew 14:22-33

Remember words of *Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8*. Now hear me my beloved there is a season in your life and my life *called The Season of Storms* and we are in a storm right now called Covid 19. Well, Jesus was no stranger to the storms as we saw last week in *Mark 4* and again today in our scripture passage of *Matthew 14* and this storm is also recorded in *Mark 6:47-52* and *John 6:16-21*.

That entire day Jesus had been teaching the multitudes, then He fed them from the five loaves and two fishes. **Look at V-21**. Now look at **V-22** again. Notice the word “**made or constrained**”, He had to make them do it; they didn't want to leave Jesus; they didn't want to get into that boat. But here's Jesus, the Son of God, who knew all things, and who knew the storm was coming, and who knew the fear that would come to the disciples and the anxiety they would experience.

There are three truths in this passage for us to look at.

I. THE PROBLEM OF THE STORM

Now when they started out, the waters were calm; there is no mention of a storm. But the Bible says then they got out on the Sea of Galilee, and the storm came very suddenly. That is the way it is in life. Everything is fine; everything is wonderful. And then we find ourselves in the midst of the problem of the storm. Now these disciples had a threefold problem.

- 1. THE DISTANCE FROM THE SHORE - V-24**
- 2. THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT - V-25**
- 3. THE DIRECTION OF THE WIND - V-24**

II. THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SAVIOR V-26

And so, I want us to look at how Jesus comes in the midst of your storm. Because I promise you, when it's dark, and when it's black, and when you think there's no hope, Jesus arrives on the scene. And He does three things.

1. Notice Jesus came in their storm to **declare His DEITY**
2. He came to **proclaim His PRESENCE**
3. He also came to **announce His ABUNDANCE**

III. THE PROGRAM OF THE SAINTS V-28

What a lesson for us to learn here. Because He came walking on the water . . .

1. **THEY GOT A VISION OF JESUS**
2. Then we need to be in the storm sometimes to hear His **VOICE. V-29**
3. And then in the storm you experience His **VICTORY**
4. And then in the storm you discover your **VALUE**

Now look at *verses 31-33*. The winds ceased and they worshipped Him! That is great isn't it? Yes, we indeed - are going through a storm. So, then let Jesus come today in the midst of your storm and get a **vision** of Him and hear His **voice** and experience His **VICTORY** and learn your **VALUE** to God.