

Mark

The Gospel of the Servant of God

I. The *Service* of the Servant (1:1-10:52)

- A. His *Preparation* for Ministry (1:1-20)
- B. His *Powerful Ministry* (1:21-2:12)
- C. His *Pointed Defense* of His Ministry (2:13-3:6)
- D. His *Progressing Ministry* (3:7-35)
- E. His *Practice* of Teaching in Parables (4:1-34)

F. His *Predominant Power* (4:35-5:43)

1. *Power* over Nature (4:35-41)

³⁵ On **that day**, when evening came, **He (Jesus)** said to **them**,
“Let us go over to the **other side**.”

³⁶ Leaving the **crowd**, they took **Him** along with them in the **boat**,
just as **He was**; and other **boats** were with **Him**.

³⁷ And there arose a **fierce gale of wind**,
and the **waves** were breaking **over the boat**
so much that the **boat** was already filling up.

³⁸ **Jesus Himself** was in the **stern, asleep** on the **cushion**;
and they **woke Him** and said to **Him**,
“**Teacher**, do You not care that we are **perishing**?”

³⁹ And **He got up** and rebuked the **wind** and said to the **sea**,
“**Hush, be still**.”
And the **wind died down** and it became **perfectly calm**.

⁴⁰ And **He said** to them,
“**Why** are you **afraid**? Do you still have no faith?”

⁴¹ They became **very much afraid** and said to one another,
“Who then **is this**, that even the **wind** and the **sea obey Him**?”

Personal Application

1. This text tonight **teaches us** about both the humanity and deity of the **Messiah**.

His need for rest and recuperation reveal to us that, like every human being, **He** grew **weary** and required time for **sleep**. On the other hand, **His unique power** to **command** the **wind** and the **raging sea** to “**be still**” reveals to us **His divine nature**, for **only God** could have that **power** and **authority**.

By **awesome deeds You** answer us in **righteousness**, **O God** of our **salvation**,
You who are the **trust** of all the **ends** of the **earth** and of the **farthest sea**;

Who **establishes** the **mountains** by **His strength**,
Being **girded** with **might**;

Who **stills** the **roaring** of the **seas**,
The **roaring** of their **waves**,
And the **tumult** of the **peoples**. (Psalm 65:5-7)

O LORD God of hosts, who is like You, O mighty LORD?
Your faithfulness also surrounds **You**.

You rule the **swelling** of the **sea**;
When its **waves rise**, **You still** them. (Psalm 89:8-9)

Those who go down to the **sea** in **ships**,
Who do **business** on **great waters**;

They have seen the **works** of the **LORD**,
And **His wonders** in the **deep**.

For **He spoke** and **raised up** a **stormy wind**,
Which **lifted up** the **waves** of the **sea**.

They **rose up** to the **heavens**, they **went down** to the **depths**;
Their **soul melted away** in *their* **misery**.

They **reeled** and **staggered** like a **drunken man**,
And were at their **wits' end**.

Then they **cried** to the **LORD** in their **trouble**,
And **He brought** them **out** of their **distresses**.

He caused the **storm** to **be still**,
So that the **waves** of the **sea** were **hushed**. (Psalm 107:23-29)

2. After a full day of ministry by the **Sea of Galilee**, **Jesus** and **His disciples** got into a **boat** to travel to the other side of the sea. As **Jesus slept** in the stern, a “**fierce gale of wind**” arose causing waves to **break over** and **flood** the **boat**. It was so **fierce** that even the **sea-tested disciples** became so **frightened** that they **woke the Lord** in panic,

and **accused Him** of being **indifferent** to their plight. Even though they had seen **Jesus** work **wonders** and **miracles**, they **failed** to **trust him** in this moment of **trial** and **fear**. (4:37-40)

As believers we also face times of **severe storm** and **trial** in our lives that cause us to **cry out** to the **Lord** in **fear** instead of **faith**. In these times we may also tend to feel that the **Lord** is “**sleeping**,” and **indifferent** to our **dire situation**. However, that is **never** the case, for **He** who has the **power** to **calm all** the “**storms**” in our life promises to **never leave us** or **forsake us** (Hebrews 13:5).

**God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.**

Therefore we will **not fear**, though the **earth** should **change**
And though the **mountains slip** into the **heart** of the **sea**;

Though its **waters roar and foam**,
Though the **mountains quake** at its **swelling pride**. (Psalm 46:1-3)

Be **gracious** to me, **O God**, be **gracious** to me,
For my **soul** takes **refuge** in **You**;
And in the **shadow** of **Your wings** I will take **refuge**
Until **destruction passes by**. (Psalm 57:2)

Be **anxious** for **nothing**, but in everything by **prayer** and **supplication**
with **thanksgiving** let your **requests** be made **known to God**.

And the **peace** of **God**, which **surpasses** all **comprehension**,
will **guard** your **hearts** and your **minds** in **Messiah Jesus**.
(Philippians 4:6-7)

3. Finally, according to one commentator, the **boat** on the **stormy sea** can be **likened** to the **Church** in the **world today**.

“This **storm** on the **Sea of Galilee**
is a **type** and **symbol** of the **trials** and **temptations** which should come upon
the **church**—for the **church of God** is as a **ship** in a **storm**,
ever **tossed** upon the **waves** of this **troublesome world**.”
(The **Pulpit Commentary**—Mark and Luke, Vol. 16)

Closing *Personal Question* to an **Unbelieving and Skeptical World**

They (the **disciples**) became **very much afraid** and said to **one another**,
“**Who** then **is this**, that even the **wind** and the **sea obey Him**?”(Mark 4:41)

The **men** were **amazed**, and said, “**What kind** of a **man** is this,

that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" (Mathew 8:27)

they (**Jesus' disciples**) were *fearful* and *amazed*,
saying to one another,
"**Who** then is this that **He commands** even the winds and the water,
and they obey Him?" (Luke 8:25b)

The Incomparable Messiah

More than nineteen hundred years ago
there was a **man born contrary** to the **laws of life**.
This man lived in **poverty** and was reared in **obscurity**.
He received no **formal education**
and never possessed **wealth** or wide-spread **influence**.

He never **traveled** extensively. He only **once** crossed the boundary
of the country in which He lived.
But this **man's life** has **changed** the **course of history**.

In **infancy** He startled a **king**; in **childhood** he puzzled **doctors**;
in man hood He **ruled** the course of **nature**, **walked** upon the **waves**,
and **hushed** the **sea to sleep**.

He **healed** the **multitudes** without medicine
and made **no charge** for His services.
He never **wrote** a book.

Yet **His life** has **inspired more books** than any **other man**.
He never **wrote a song**. Yet He has furnished
the theme for **more songs** than all songwriters **combined**.
He never founded a **college**. But all the schools put together
cannot boast of having as **many students**.

He never marshaled **an army**, nor drafted a **soldier**, nor fired a gun.
Yet no leader ever had **more rebels surrender** to Him without a shot fired.
He never practiced **psychiatry**.
Yet He has **healed** more broken hearts than **all** the **doctors** far and near.
Once each week the wheels of commerce **cease** their turning,
and **multitudes** gather to pay **homage** and **respect** to Him.

Though time has spread **nineteen hundred years** between the people
of this generation and His birth, **He still lives**.
His **enemies** could **not destroy Him**, and the **grave** could **not hold Him**.

This man stands forth upon the **highest pinnacle** of **heavenly glory**,
proclaimed of God, **acknowledged** by **angels**, **adored** by **His people**,
and **feared by devils**, as the **risen Lord** and **Savior**, **Jesus the Messiah**.

(Author Unknown)