

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)