Mark

The **Gospel** of the **Servant of God**

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

G. **His Preeminence** in **Galilee** (6:1-9:50)

1. The ***Poor*** **Reception** in **Nazareth** (6:1-6a)
2. The ***Pairing*** and **Sending** of the **Twelve** (6:7-13)
3. The ***Plight*** of **John the Baptist** (6:14-29)
4. The ***Provision*** for the **5,000** (6:30-44)

5. The ***Power*** over the **Elements** (6:45-56)

a. **Jesus' Walk** upon the **Water** (6:45-52)

[45] **Immediately Jesus** made **His disciples** get into the **boat**
and **go ahead** of *Him* to the other side to **Bethsaida**,
while **He Himself** was sending the **crowd away**.

[46] After bidding them farewell, **He left** for the **mountain** to ***pray***.

[47] When it was **evening**, the **boat** was in the **middle** of the **sea,**
and **He** was ***alone*** on the **land**.

[48] ***Seeing*** them **straining** at the **oars**, for the **wind** was ***against them***,
at about the **fourth watch** of the night **He came** to them,
walking on **the sea**; and **He** intended to **pass by them**.

[49] But when they **saw Him walking** on **the sea**,
they supposed that it was **a ghost**, and **cried out**;

[50] for they all **saw Him** and were ***terrified***.
But **immediately He spoke** with them and said to them,
"**Take courage; it is I,** do ***not*** **be afraid**."

[51] Then **He** got into the **boat** with them, and the **wind stopped**;
and they were **utterly astonished**,

[52] for they had ***not*** gained **any insight** from the *incident of* the **loaves**,
but their **heart** was ***hardened.***

b. **Jesus' <u>Healing</u>** of the **Multitudes** (6:53-56)

[53] When they had **crossed over** they came to land
at **Gennesaret**, and moored to the shore.

[54] When they got out of the boat, **immediately** *the people* **recognized Him,**

[55] and **ran** about that **whole country** and began to **carry** here and there
on their **pallets** those who were **sick**, to the place they heard **He was**.

[56] Wherever **He** entered **villages,** or **cities**, or **countryside,**
they were laying **the sick** in the **market places**,

and imploring **Him** that they might **just <u>touch</u>** the ***fringe*** of **His cloak**;
and as many as **touched it** were **<u>being cured</u>**.

Harmonizing the **Three Testimonies** of **Messiah's Miraculous <u>Walk</u>** on **<u>Water</u>** (***Key*** **Observations**)

1. The ***Political*** **intent** to **make Jesus <u>King</u>**

Therefore when the **people saw** the **<u>sign</u>** (**5,000 fed**) which **He had performed**,
they said, "This is **truly the <u>Prophet</u>** who is to **come** into the **world.**"

So **Jesus, perceiving** that they were ***intending*** to come and **take Him**
by force to **make Him <u>king</u>**, **withdrew again** to the **mountain** by **Himself alone**.
(John 6:14-15)

"**Jesus** had to **escape** from the **enthusiasm** of the **crowd**, which would have
<u>forced Him</u> to **lead them** in **revolt** against the **Roman government**.
Jesus refused to become a ***political*** **revolutionist**." (Ryrie)

2. The ***Parting*** of the **<u>Disciples</u>**

Immediately Jesus made **His disciples** get into **the boat**
and **<u>go ahead</u>** of ***Him*** to the other side to **Bethsaida,**
while **He Himself** was **sending** the **crowd away**. (Mark 4:45)
(see also Matthew 14:22, John 6:16-17)

3. The ***Pursuit*** of **<u>Prayer</u>** and **<u>Solitude</u>**

After **He (Jesus)** had **sent** the **crowds away**, **He *went up*** on the **mountain**
by **Himself** to **<u>pray</u>**; and when it was **evening**, **He** was there **<u>alone</u>**. (Matthew 14:23)
(See also Mark 4:46, John 6:15)

4. The ***Perilous*** **<u>Position</u>** of the **Disciples**

When it was **evening,** the **boat** was in the ***middle*** of the **sea**,
and **He was alone** on the **land.**

Seeing them **(the disciples)** **straining** at the **oars**, for the **wind**
was ***against them***, at about the **fourth watch** of the night...(Mark 6:47-48a)
(See also Matthew 14:24, John 6:18)

5. The *Phenomenal* Walk on Water

And in the **fourth watch** of the night **He came** to **them**, **walking** on **the sea**.
(Matthew 14:25) (See also Mark 6:48, John 6:19)

6. The *Panic* of the Disciples—Messiah's Compassionate Response

When the **disciples *saw Him* walking** on the **sea,** they were **terrified**,
and said, "It is **a ghost!"** And they **cried out** in **fear**.

But **immediately Jesus spoke** to them, saying, "**Take *courage*, it is I**;
do **not** be **afraid**."(Matthew 14:26-27)
(See Also Mark 6:49-50, John 6:19-20)

7. The *Passion* of Peter

Peter said to **Him (Jesus),** "**Lord,** if it **is You**,
command me to **come** to **You *on* the water**."

And **He said**, **"Come!"** And **Peter got out** of the **boat,**
and **walked** on the **water** and came **toward Jesus**.

But ***seeing* the wind**, he became ***frightened,*** and beginning **to *sink***,
he cried out, "**Lord, save me**!"

Immediately Jesus stretched out **His hand** and ***took hold*** of **him**,
and said to him, "**You** of ***little faith***, **why** did you **doubt**?" (Matthew 14:28-31)

8. The *Pacifying* of the Wind, and *Astonishment* of the Disciples

[51] Then **He (Messiah)** got **into** the **boat** with **them**, and the ***wind stopped***;
and they were **utterly astonished**,

[52] for they had **not gained** any **insight** from the *incident of* the **loaves**,
but their **heart** was ***hardened***. (Mark 6:51-52)

9. The *Proclamation* of Deity

And **those** who were in the **boat worshiped Him**, saying,
"**You** are *certainly* **God's Son**!" (Matthew 14:33)

Personal Application

Facing the ***Battering*** **Waves** and ***Contrary*** **Winds** in **our Lives—Observations/Insights**

A. The ***Priority*** of **Prayer**—Just as **Jesus** took time for **prayer** and **solitude** (6:46), ***we also*** must take time for **prayer** and **quiet time** with **God**. The **Bible** is filled with exhortations to make **prayer** a ***priority*** in our **daily walk** with **the Lord**. **Quiet times** with the **Lord** are the **means** by which we "**order** our **private world**," and receive **personal strength** and **faith** to face the **busyness** and **burdens** that often attempt to **overwhelm** us.

B. The ***Prevalence*** of **Trials**—As the **disciples** set out to cross the **sea** they encountered **severe hardship** as they faced **contrary winds** and **battering waves** (Matt. 14:24). As **believers, *we too*** will face **struggles** and **"strain"** as we **steer** through the **"contrary winds,"** and **trials** of this **present world**.

> Consider it **all joy**, my **brethren**, when you encounter **various trials**,
> **knowing** that the **testing** of your **faith** produces ***endurance.***
>
> And let ***endurance*** have *its* **perfect result**, so that you may be ***perfect***
> and ***complete,*** lacking in **nothing**. (James 1:2-4)

C. The ***Presence*** of a **Loving God**—When **Jesus saw** from **His place** of **prayer** that **His disciples** were "**straining** at **the oars**," and **facing strong winds**, **He walked** out **upon** the **water** and **came** to **them** (6:48). **He allayed** their **fears** with **His comforting voice** and **Presence** (Matt. 14:26-27).

As **believers, *we too*** can be **assured** that **the Lord sees us** when we are **struggling** with **difficult trials** and **adversity** in our lives. We can **rest** in the **strong promise the Lord** will "**never leave us** nor **forsake us** (Heb. 13:5)," and that **He** will be a **comforting** and **sustaining Presence** in times of **turbulence** and **fear**.

> **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)

D. The ***Principle*** of **Faith**—In **Mathew's account** of this miracle, when **Peter** saw that it was **Jesus** who was **walking** on the **water** towards them, he desired that the **Lord command** that **he walk out** and **come to Him**. As **Peter walked** on **water** towards **the Lord**, he **saw** the **wind,** became **frightened**, and began to **sink**.
In fear **Peter cried** to **the Lord** to **save him**, and **immediately Jesus** stretched out **His hand** and **took hold** of him. **He** then admonished **Peter** concerning his **lack of faith** which ***caused*** him to **sink**.

The **Bible** tells us to "**walk by <u>faith</u>** and ***not*** **by <u>sight</u>** (II Cor. 5:7)." **<u>Faith</u>** is essential in our **spiritual walk** and **life.** Though **fearsome winds** and **battering waves** may **surround** and **frighten us**, if we have **<u>faith</u>** and we keep our ***focus*** on the **Lord, He** will **sustain** and **deliver us** in times of **<u>trial</u>** and **<u>distress</u>**.

"...let us **run with *endurance*** the **race** that is set before us,
fixing our **eyes on <u>Jesus</u>**, the ***author*** and ***perfecter*** of **<u>faith</u>**,..(Heb. 12:1b)

If the **LORD** had ***not*** **been** my **<u>help</u>**,
My soul would soon have **dwelt** in *the abode of* **silence.**

If I should say, "**My foot** has ***slipped***,"
Your lovingkindness, **O LORD**, will **<u>hold me up</u>**.
When my **anxious thoughts *multiply*** within **me**,
Your <u>consolations</u> delight my *soul*. (Psalm 94:17-19)