

Mark 6:51

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

Analysis

And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. Jesus entered the boat, 'the wind ceased'—demonstrating authority over nature. 'They were sore amazed' (ἐξίσταντο, existanto, utterly astonished) 'beyond measure' (ἐν ἔαυτοῖς περισσῶς, en heautois perissōs, exceedingly). Despite witnessing miracles continuously, they remained capable of fresh astonishment at Christ's power. This reveals both their dullness (should they still be amazed?) and appropriate wonder (God's works merit perpetual amazement).

Historical Context

The immediate wind cessation paralleled the stilling of storm (Mark 4:39), demonstrating consistent authority over nature. Ancient Jewish thought held only God could control wind and waves (Psalm 107:29). Their amazement despite prior miracles showed they still didn't fully grasp Jesus' identity. Early church fathers noted the disciples' slow learning process, finding encouragement that even intimate followers needed time to comprehend Christ's full deity.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about Christ's nature and work?
2. How should this truth shape our daily discipleship?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἀνέβη πρὸς αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸ πλοῖον καὶ ἐκόπασεν
And he went up unto them into the ship And ceased
G2532 G305 G4314 G846 G1519 G3588 G4143 G2532 G2869

ο ἄνεμος καὶ λίαν ἐκ περισσοῦ ἐν ἐαυτοῖς
the wind And they were sore beyond measure in themselves
G3588 G417 G2532 G3029 G1537 G4053 G1722 G1438

ἐξίσταντο· καὶ ἐθαύμαζον
amazed And wondered
G1839 G2532 G2296

Additional Cross-References

Mark 4:39 (Parallel theme): And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Mark 1:27 (Parallel theme): And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

Mark 2:12 (Parallel theme): And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

Mark 7:37 (Parallel theme): And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

Mark 4:41 (Parallel theme): And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Mark 5:42 (Parallel theme): And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

Mark 6:32 (Parallel theme): And they departed into a desert place by ship privately.

John 6:21 (Parallel theme): Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.