

Matthew 8:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

Analysis

The detail that Jesus 'entered into a ship, and his disciples followed him' sets the scene for the storm miracle that follows. The disciples' physical following into the boat parallels their spiritual following as learners. This journey across Galilee becomes a teaching moment about faith and Christ's divine authority over nature. The pattern of Jesus leading and disciples following models the essential posture of discipleship—going where Christ directs, even into storms.

Historical Context

The Sea of Galilee is susceptible to sudden violent storms when cool air from surrounding mountains collides with warm air over the water. Many of Jesus' disciples were experienced fishermen familiar with these dangers, making their fear in the coming storm (verse 25) more significant.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does the disciples' following Jesus into the boat teach about trusting Christ's leadership even when the destination is uncertain?
2. How can you cultivate the habit of immediately following where Christ leads rather than calculating risks first?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ ἐμβάντι αὐτῷ εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ἠκολούθησαν

And when he was entered him into a ship followed

G2532

G1684

him

into

G3588

a ship

followed

G190

αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτῷ

him disciples him

G846

G3101

G846

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