

Jesus Calms the Storm

A violent storm threatens to sink the disciples' boat. Jesus wakes from sleep and commands the wind and waves to be still.

Mark 4:35-41 • Matthew 8:23-27 • Luke 8:22-25

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Disciples

THEMES: Jesus' power over nature, Faith, Fear, Peace

THAT DAY WHEN evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat.

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion.

The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!'

Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'

They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'

The disciples were experienced fishermen who knew the Sea of Galilee well. For them to be terrified meant this was no ordinary storm. Yet Jesus slept peacefully through it all—not because He didn't care, but because He was never in danger.

With a word, He silenced the storm. The same voice that spoke creation into existence now commanded the chaos to cease. The disciples began to understand: this was no ordinary teacher.

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