

“ASSURANCE: IN THE STORMS AND THE SAVIOR”
Mark 4:35-41

It has been said that few things in life are sure. In fact, some say the only two things that we can be assured of in taxes and death. But there are two other things I want to submit to you tonight that we can all have assurance in: storms and the Savior. Mark points this out in our text tonight.

1. THE ASSURANCE OF STORMS

A. The Storm Was Fast.

The storm “arose.” This has the idea that the storm blew in fast. It was clam one moment and suddenly it was stormy. That’s the way storms hit on the Sea of Galilee. The Sea is located in a basin surrounded by hills. Wind would rip through ravines in the hills onto the Sea. The sweeping cold air will collide with the rising warm air from the Sea causing a violent storm to erupt.

This is the way life is. Everything is calm and then, without warning, a storm moves in very fast. Everything was calm in my life and one day I got a call from my mother, “We just returned from an emergency trip to the hospital. They think your Daddy had a stroke.” Later the word was, “It is a malignant tumor.” On a cold, icy February morning the phone rang, “Daddy is dead.” I was sitting in Homer’s eating lunch with a friend. Everything was great. We were laughing, telling stories of old times when the phone rang, “Darbi has had a wreck and they can’t find her.” Storms comes and they blow in fast.

B. The Storm Was Fierce.

The Bible says the storm was fierce. The wind blew fiercely. The waves beat against the boat fiercely. The boat was swamped with water. Storms enter our lives and rock us. That’s what storms do.

C. The Storm Was Fearful.

We experience fear when storms blow. Fear is revealed by the questions we ask. Why did I get into the boat? What are we going to do? This is going to kill me. Where is God in the middle of this?

If we live long enough, we will face things like this. Be assured, storms will come. But there is a greater assurance that we need to be reminded of.

2. THE ASSURANCE OF THE SAVIOR

Everyone who is saved, born again from above, can find rest in the midst of life’s storms when we understand....

A. The Savior’s Closeness

Jesus was in the boat with the disciples.
Jesus lives in our hearts. He is “the friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

B. The Savior’s Calmness

Jesus was asleep on a cushion. He was calm as the waves battered the boat and the water filled the boat. He had no fear because fear and faith cannot reside together. Fear and faith are mutually exclusive. How could Jesus be so calm? Because of.....

C. The Savior’s Covenant

He told them before they got in the boat, “Let’s cross over to the other side.” He gave them His word! They were going to the other side. Jesus didn’t say, “Get in and we’re going down.” No! A hundred times, No!

D. The Savior's Confidence

"He got up." There Jesus is in the midst of the storm and He got up. How could He be so confident? It was Jesus who scooped out the oceans with His hand! The Sea of Galilee is only 13 miles long and 8 miles wide at its widest point. What was this storm in comparison?

When the storm rises, Jesus rises. That's what He does in our lives. The Storm of Death was blowing in Stephen's life as he was being stoned and he saw Jesus "standing at the right hand of the Father." Jesus rose to the occasion!

E. The Savior's Command

- 1. Ceased**
- 2. Calmness**

One of my favorite films is Apollo 13. That mission experienced a catastrophe. The astronauts struggled with the elements of space, limited electrical supply, limited food supply, damaged vehicle, cold, etc. The whole movie is stormy, right up to the end. The space capsule reenters earth's atmosphere. One minute passes, two minutes, three minutes, they should have fully entered by now, but no, four minutes, five and then, break through. The radio static clears, the voice comes over, "Hello Houston, this is Apollo 13." Immediately everything changes. That's the way it is with Jesus.

G. Our Consideration

The greatest question is "Who then is this?" He is the God-man. We need to invite Jesus into our boat, our life. Storms are coming. Be assured. But Jesus will see you through. Be assured!