

Daniel Perrin – Lesson 5: Miracles Around the Lake – Sunday July 28: Calming a Storm

Text: **Mark 4:35-41** – *On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side.”³⁶ Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.³⁷ And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.³⁸ But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”³⁹ Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.⁴⁰ But He said to them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?”⁴¹ And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”*

1. Great Galilean Ministry

- a. Jesus spent most of His ministry in Galilee and went to Jerusalem in Judea for the annual feasts.
- b. Parallel accounts in Matthew 8-9,14 & Luke 8-9

2. Sea of Galilee – called by several other names (Lake of Gennesaret, Sea of Tiberias)

- a. 8mi.x13mi. – Sea of Galilee 64 sq.mi. / [New York City is about 300 square miles]
- b. From any place on the shore, you can see the shoreline of the whole lake
- c. 700 ft. below sea level
 - Surrounded by mountains that rise to over 1,400 feet above sea level
 - The cool air of the highlands can rush down the gorges and cause very sudden intense storms.
- d. It was one of these SUDDEN storms that Jesus and His disciples encountered

3. The storm does NOT rouse Jesus – But PRAYER does

4. Immediately, Jesus leads a DEBRIEF

- a. He did not fail to come to their aid — BUT now He addresses their lack of faith.
- b. Jesus asks them, “why were you so fearful?” – This is the Greek word DEILOS
 - *Deilos* is Cowardice/Timidity – It is the Unwillingness to Go On, (“FROZEN” with fear) because of a Lack of Faith
 - All WHILE they are laboring to the extreme to save their lives — ACTIVE workers LACKING Faith!
 - This is the condition of those who say – *Lord, Lord, did we not...*
 - We tried EVERYTHING to get in, to be good enough (**MT. 7:22-23**)
 - Trusting in YOU, saving YOURSELF, ... didn't know ME / TRUST Me — It was ALL ABOUT YOU
 - In Revelation 21:8 the DEILOS are among those who are OUTSIDE the New Jerusalem – they would not take their stand for Jesus.
- c. Jesus asks US – “Why are you fearful?” – Why the cowardice and timidity?
 - Their response in the boat appears reasonable – but Jesus reveals that it was not at all reasonable to lose faith when Jesus was right there among them – SLEEPING.
 - When times get hard, we give up OR we blame God.
- d. In the next verse, it says, “And they FEARED greatly...” – This is the Greek word – PHOBOS
 - *Phobos* can be Terror/ALSO Awe & Amazement

5. Jesus gives us an example that WE can be in PERFECT PEACE when we are doing God's will

- a. **John 14:27** – *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*
- b. **Isaiah 26:3** – *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.*
 - This is the same condition we find Him in as He faces the Sanhedrin, Pilate and the Jewish leaders.
 - Jesus knows His work is not finished.
 - He has not presumptuously placed Himself in danger. He is walking by faith.
 - **DESCRIPTION OF JESUS' PEACE – DA 330.3-4** – *In the heart of Christ, where reigned perfect harmony with God, there was perfect peace. He was never elated by applause, nor dejected by censure or disappointment. Amid the greatest opposition and the most cruel treatment, He was still of good courage. But many who profess to be His followers have an anxious, troubled heart, because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not make a complete surrender to Him; for they shrink from the consequences that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make this surrender, they cannot find peace. It is the love of self that brings unrest.*
- c. Better to be in the company of Jesus in a storm than without it.
- d. Bring ALL your troubles to Him.
 - “Even the wind and the waves obey Him!” – I.E. “I didn’t think to bring THAT trial to Him.”
- e. Jesus’ boat can be battered, but it will not sink.
 - **Matthew 16:18** – *And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*
 - **Romans 8:35-37** –
 - **Hebrews 12:28** – *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.*

Other names for the Sea of Galilee:

- Sea of Kinnereth (Num. 34:11; Josh. 12:3)
- Lake of Gennesaret (Luke 5:1)
- Sea of Tiberias (John 6:1; 21:1)
- "the lake" (John 6:16).