

Title: "Peace in the Midst of the Storm"

Scripture: Luke 8:22-25

Speaker: Josh Maness

Event: Sunday Morning Service

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Luke 8:22-25 *"Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. 23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. 24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. 25 And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him."*

"It Is Well With My Soul" – written by Horatio G. Spafford

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
Even so, it is well with my soul.

#### **During these verses in Luke, we see a crisis taking place:**

Christ went below the deck of the ship and went to sleep. This all took place on the Sea of Galilee where conditions are never steady. The weather changes constantly from one moment to the next. The disciples got into the boat and Jesus knew ahead of time that the storm was coming. If he loved the disciples, why didn't he prevent them from getting in the boat? Here's why: so they could see the power of God and see him work. The same is true for our lives. We question why God allows storms to happen in our lives. Many times it is to show us or make us realize his power in our lives. God wants us to see HIM. In the midst of the storms we often leave God. We want to go our own way.

#### **While Jesus is sleeping, we see the cry of the individuals on the ship:**

In verse 24 we see the disciples and they are trying to wake Christ up saying "Master, master, we perish." There is an emphasis on the situation at hand. They knew that their lives were at risk. They were about to die. They didn't say this calmly because they were in danger and in need of saving. These were four men that were fishermen. They had lived their lives on a boat but they knew that there was nothing they could do in this situation that would help. The storm was much too strong. The church has become civilized and mundane. Our hearts are not breaking for Christ and our lost loved ones. We have spouses, family members, parents, neighbors, and friends that are perishing. Why have we not gone to God and said "unless you do something, they will perish!" In another account, we see where Peter walked on the water with Christ. Peter fell in because he lost his focus on God. Christ knew that Peter couldn't walk on the water as he did but he let him to prove his power. Psalm 34:6 *"This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles."* Psalm 86:7 *"In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me."* Psalm 91:15 *"He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him."*

#### **We see a command:**

In verse 25 it says *"And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him."* Psalm 23:4 *"I will fear no*

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*evil: for thou art with me;"* All Christ had to do was use his words and the sea and the wind came to a stop. His command was enough to stop the storm.

### **We see the calm:**

After a storm there is always a calm that falls over the area that the storm has passed through. It is a peace that can't be felt unless you've experienced the storm. This is what happened with the disciples and Jesus. The disciples realized that God had all control and only he could cause the feeling of ultimate peace. In Philippians 4:6-7 it says "*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"