

“Going THROUGH Storms”
July 31, 2016

Mark 4:35-41

PROP- 2 kinds of storms: “Jonah storms”- sent by God to get us back on track;
“Mark 4 storms”- sent by Satan to keep us from fulfilling the purposes of God.

1. CHOOSE PEACE OVER PANIC.

Jesus slept in peaceful trust (while Jonah- escapist sleep of depression) **Isaiah 32:17- “The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.”**

- **Jesus spoke “Peace!” to the storm.** (You can only release peace over a storm- when you are at peace in that storm.)
- **Stop getting distracted from God’s promises!**
 - i. Jesus said, **“Let’s go over to the other side” (v. 35)**
 - ii. **Storms “test” the word** (i.e., *David- king-fugitive, Joseph- ruler-slave, Moses- deliverer-outlaw*)
- **Move from paralyzing fear to holy terror (Mark 4:41)** See Jesus as One who is bigger than the storm you were afraid of!!

2. CHOOSE AUTHORITY OVER APATHY.

- **Jesus expected His disciples to do more than panic & wake Him up** (NOTE: Intercession is more than a “fearful cry”)—it’s standing in the gap WITH Him
- **Exodus 14:13-14- 13 “Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”**
- **SEE Psalm 103:20 (NKJV)**

3. CHOOSE LIBERATION OVER LIMITATION. (Mk. 5:1-20)

- **“Submit to God → resist the devil → he will flee!” (James 4:7)**
 - i. This man’s “demons were possessed”
 - ii. **Legion-** 3 to 6,000 of them!
 - iii. **Yet, 6,000 demons could not stop him from bowing**
- **God fights for territories/regions (not content w/ Gideon’s winepress).**
 - i. **Mark 5:10-** a territorial spirit
 - ii. The storm had come as Satan’s “back-off!” warning
 - iii. The spirits operating in him held entire region in fear!!!

- **He confronts religious spirits. (Mark 5:14-15)** (The people so adjusted their eyes to the darkness, they were afraid of the light)
 - i. Tolerate darkness**
 - ii. Maintain the status quo—fearful of change**
 - iii. Resist moves of the H.S. (Fearful/suspicious)** (Content to see people sick & bound; disturbed when they get delivered & healed)
- **He looks redemptively at those He sets free. (Mark 5:19)**
 - i.** This man had a 5-minute testimony to share
 - ii.** Took his message to “Decapolis” (10 Greek cities)
 - iii.** Next time Jesus returned to this region, everyone showed up expectantly (Mark 7:36-37) **contrast with Mark 5:17!!**

RESPONSE

As you pursue God’s will, storms will arise.

When it happens:

- Know that **you’re a threat to the devil**
- You’re **on the verge of breakthrough**
- **Resist fear**
- **Enter His rest**
- **Walk in your authority!**

Isaiah 30:32- *“And as the Lord strikes them with his rod of punishment, His people will celebrate with tambourines and harps.”*