

Peace Be Still Mark 4:35 - 41

There are times when we all desire a little peace in our lives. It can be peace from the maddening crowd, peace from the cares of the world, or just peace of mind. We know we are powerless to grant this peace ourselves, but we can approach the throne of grace to find it.

This is exactly what the disciples did when a sudden squall tossed their boat to and fro and it filled with water while they were on the lake. As evening drew near, Jesus had told the disciples, "Let's go over to the other side." The other boats with them on the lake followed suit.

Now Jesus was in the boat with the disciples, but he was asleep on a cushion. It was evening and he needed some rest, so he used the trip across the lake to get some shut-eye. He taught the people who had gathered by the lake to hear him, while sitting in the boat. Many sought him for they heard about the miracles he had performed. He spoke to them in parables, and taught them as much as they could understand, but when he was alone with the disciples, he explained everything to them.

In the midst of the boat ride, the boat began to take on water and the disciples began to take on fear. Although some of them were experienced fisherman, they were unable to deal with the circumstances which arose. The Master was in the boat so they cried out to him.

It is amazing that, first, Jesus was not a seaman, he was a carpenter's son. His natural expertise was not that of handling a boat. He could probably build it, but not steer it. Matthew was a tax collector, and the rest of the disciples had other occupations. No one was qualified to handle the boat in rough weather such as this. In our lives we experience a boat load of storms. The wind and the waves can become overwhelming, and if we are not anchored in Jesus, we will surely drown from fear.

The disciples lacked faith, even though the Master was with them. When they approached Jesus, they expected him to save them from this life-threatening situation. The interesting thing is, when he did, they were astonished that he calmed the sea. He did not commandeer the boat and steer them to safety; he just spoke to the wind and the waves. He said, "Peace. Be still."

Just as he calmed them, he can speak to any situation you are going through. Nothing is too hard for God, nor does any situation catch him by surprise.

Regardless of whether Jesus did the miraculous or not, the boat was unsinkable with the Savior of the world aboard. If you are seeking peace in your life, then ask the Master. Philippians 4:7 states, "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."