

Where Is Your Faith?

Luke 8:22-25

I ask a ton of questions. You eat dinner with me, I'll ask you tons and tons of questions. I'm bent to do this task. I have a voracious appetite to know, and maybe I ask so many questions because I don't know much. But I'm always fascinated by questions that God asks. To Adam: "Where are you?" To Eve: "What is this you have done?" Or here in the boat "Where is your faith?" Why does God ask questions?

God's questions are designed to give us a revelation of ourselves, never to get information for Himself.

The question presumes they have faith. God probes the disciples to discover where they've placed it. This is a great question for us all. Where is our faith? What is it that we worship? What has captured our heart? Paul Tripp says, "The heart is the causal core of personhood." What we trust, we treasure in our heart. So, I'd like to ask each of us this morning, "Where is our faith?" Are we trusting in the government? Are we trusting in the economy? Are we trusting in ourselves? Where is our faith?

I We are not exempt from storms in this life.

Obedience to the call to follow Christ doesn't exempt us from the storms that other people face.

"Let us not be disturbed by afflictions; for we know that we've been destined for them" (1 Thess. 3:3).

A.W. Pink once wrote that nothing occurs but that God "permits it, promotes it, or prohibits it." This truth should bring comfort to those of us able to call God "Our Father who is in heaven..." He cares.

II. Christ moves *with us* through the storms.

Look closely at the invitation to cross: "*Let us go over to the other side of the lake,*" said Jesus (v. 22).

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Heb. 13:5). Five negatives (I will not) are used.

A. The problems around us ought never to obscure the Person beside us.

B. The Person beside us has complete power and authority over the problems around us.

The fact that the wind and sea obeyed his word demonstrated our Redeemer's complete deity.

This Man is the Omnipotent God! The wind and the sea knew the voice of their Creator!

(1). He "rebuked" the winds and the waves by saying, "Quiet, be muzzled" (Mark 36-41).

These are the same words Jesus used in casting out demons from the demoniac (Luke 4:35).

Jesus is able to quiet the problems over you, and He is able to quiet the people around you.

(2). Practical atheism is the result of not being convinced of the power of God over all things.

It's difficult to understand how God is all-powerful in a world of evil, particularly when it

(C). The Person beside us invites us through the problems before us for an ultimate good reason.

It's worth remembering that on the other side of the lake was a man in need of deliverance.

The Gadarene demoniac received deliverance from the One who journeyed through a storm.

III. Storms are designed to expose our faith.

"Where is your faith?" Jesus said "Let's go to the other side; the disciples said, "We are perishing."

Jesus said, "I will supply all your needs." We say, "Lord if you don't do this, then we will go without."

I've got a question for you today: How would the disciples acted any differently with faith in Him?

(A). They would enjoyed the trip a great deal more. "Joy is the infallible sign of God's presence."

(b) They would focused more on their character and conduct than their comfort.

(C). They would have expected God to move in mighty ways in His time, not theirs.