

WHY AM I GOING THROUGH THIS? WHERE IS GOD? HOW DO I MAKE IT THROUGH THIS WITHOUT GIVING UP?

TEXT: Matthew 14:22-32; John 16

I. What Do The Storms Of Life Reveal About Me?

- A. The Nature of My Faith
- B. The Strength of My Commitment
- C. The Level of My Maturity
- D. The Healthiness of My Attitude
- E. The Measure of My Teachability

Matthew 5:45

II. What Does Jesus Do For Me In The Midst Of My Storms?

- A. He Prays for Us.
Matthew 14:22-23, Hebrews 4:14-16
- B. He Comes to Us.
Matthew 14:25
 - 1. He comes to us at the darkest hour.
“...a little before morning...”
 - 2. He comes to us victorious over our greatest fears.
“...Jesus came walking on the water...”
Isaiah 43:1-3
- C. He Ministers to Us.
Matthew 14:26-27
 - 1. He ministers to us in spite of our misunderstandings.
 - 2. He ministers to us in spite of our fears.

III. How Does Jesus Prepare Me For Storms?

- A. He Lets Us See the Clouds.
John 16:1-5
 - 1. So that our fears will be lessened
John 16:1
 - 2. So we will be secure in Him
John 16:4
 - 3. Because the timing is right
John 16:4
- B. He Assures Us That He Has Our Best Interest in Mind.
John 16:6-7
- C. He Sends the Holy Spirit to Minister to Us.
John 16:7
The Holy Spirit will...
 - 1. Reveal truth about sin, judgment & God's justice

2. Guide the believer in full truth
 3. Bring joy to God
- D. He Gives Enough Light for Today.
John 16:16-18
- E. He Reminds Us of His Unconditional Love.
John 16:31-33
- F. He Gives Us Courage in Spite of Our Circumstances.
John 16:33

IV. Why Storms?

- A. Storms Allow Us to See Ourselves.
- B. Storms Are Times of Restoration.
- C. Storms Can Bring Spiritual Growth In Our Life.
 1. They bring us into conformity with Him.
 2. They bring happiness in our Christian experience.
 3. They yield the fruit of righteousness.
 4. They glorify God.
 5. They produce praise, glory, and honor to Him.

V. How Can I Grow During My Storm?

- A. Learning from Storms Requires a Decision.
 1. The Lordship issue
 2. Anything I encounter is for my benefit.
- B. Learning from Storms Requires Dedication.
- C. Learning from Storms Requires Humility.
- D. Learning from Storms Requires Living with a Sense Of Destiny.
- E. Learning from Storms Requires the Prayers of Saints and the Help of the Holy Spirit.

THE STORM TEST

Answer the following questions yes or no. You may give yourself two points for a yes answer, one point for a no answer.

Do you think there is any storm that touches your life that God doesn't know about? Yes No

Do you think there is any storm that touches your life that God can't handle? Yes No

Do you think there is any storm that touches your life that doesn't have a purpose? Yes No

Do you think there is any storm that touches your life that shouldn't teach you something about you?
Yes No

Do you think there is any storm that touches your life that shouldn't teach you something about the Lord? Yes No

All done? If you scored more than five points, then you probably are not trusting the Lord as completely as you should when it comes to your fears.