

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Current Book: John – verse by verse

Scriptures for Today: John 6:15-21 – the disciples tried to save themselves; Jesus walked on water.

Today's Message:

"A Walking Miracle"**INTRODUCTION**

Last week, we learned from the feeding of a great multitude with 2 fishes and 5 loaves. We considered how we often limit God in our lives. Yet Jesus is able and willing to share His endless provision with us and the world! Today, we come to the *fifth* miracle in John – Jesus will walk on WATER! As usual, there is more to this historical account than we often remember. The disciples were in quite a predicament while Jesus was PRAYING for them in a mountain. After quite a time of trying on their own, Jesus came walking on the water and brought PEACE to a very stressful situation! This is God's message to you.

LEARNING TOGETHER

A. The Text John 6:15-21

#1. Heavenly Prayers (15) – Jesus was alone in a mountain PRAYING.

HE DEPARTED AGAIN INTO A MOUNTAIN **HIMSELF ALONE**

- ✓ This *fifth* miracle recorded in John appears in THREE of the Gospel accounts.
 - **Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52**
 - **Matthew** – Jesus constrained the disciples to get into a ship; he prayed ALONE.
 - **Mark** – Jesus constrained the disciples to get into the ship; he departed to pray.
- ✓ Jesus is called your great High Priest – He ever lives to and always prays for YOU.
 - **Heb 7:25** – *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

#2. Earthly Problems (16-19) – the disciples entered a ship WITHOUT Jesus.

HIS DISCIPLES WENT DOWN UNTO THE SEA... JESUS WAS **NOT COME** TO THEM

- ✓ Jesus **constrained** the disciples to get into a ship to cross the sea at NIGHT.
 - **Mt 14:22** – *And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship...*
 - **Mk 6:45** – *And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship...*

AND THE SEA AROSE BY REASON OF **A GREAT WIND** THAT BLEW

- ✓ The sea became very dangerous and TOSSED the ship with the disciples in it.
 - **Mt 14:24** – *But the ship was now... tossed with waves... the wind was contrary.*

Luke 6:8
But he knew
their thoughts...

W1828
Constrained
Urged irresistibly
or powerfully.

W1828
Toiling
Laboring
with pain.

So when they had rowed about *five and twenty or thirty furlongs....*
Now **25-30 furlongs** is approximated to be **3 to 4 miles**. Remember, many of them are
commercial fishermen. **Mark** says they were "toiling" in rowing – LABORING IN PAIN!

Question
What is the visual you SEE right now?

Important Note
The fourth watch or "darkest watch" was 3am to 6am.

- ✓ It is important to visualize both Jesus and the disciples BEFORE He walks on water.
 - Jesus is **alone** in a mountain **PRAYING** – no doubt praying for the disciples!
 - The disciples are **painfully rowing** to try to SAVE themselves!
- ✓ It is also important to visualize and understand what Mark alone describes next...
 - **Mk 6:48** – ...and **about THE FOURTH WATCH of the night** he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and **WOULD HAVE PASSED BY THEM**.

#3. A Walking Miracle (19-21) – Jesus overrode laws of nature to bring PEACE!

THEY SEE **JESUS WALKING ON THE SEA**, AND DRAWING NIGH

- ✓ Jesus Christ has AUTHORITY over the *natural laws* He created! Amen.
 - **Mk 6:48** – ... he cometh unto them, **walking upon the sea**...

Examples...

Important Note
In the OT, God rebuked the storms and seas. Ps 89:9; Nah 1:4

Jesus walked on water. **Jn 6:19**
Jesus walked on nothing. **Acts 1:9**
Jesus walked through walls. **Jn 20:26**
Jesus rebuked the wind. **Mk 4:39; Lk 8:24**
Jesus calmed the sea. **Mk 4:39; Lk 8:24**

Not to mention all the miracles...
Luke 7:22 – Then, Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

Consider the laws of science ...

Natural Science – Jesus rebuked the wind and calmed the sea.

Biology – Jesus was born of a virgin.

Chemistry – Jesus turned water into wine.

Physics (law of gravity) – Jesus walked on water.

THEY WERE AFRAID **IT IS I; BE NOT AFRAID**

John 16:33
Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

- ✓ The disciples thought Him to be a *spirit* until they heard his VOICE.
 - **Mt 14:26-27** – And when the disciples saw him... saying, **Be of good cheer**...

AND IMMEDIATELY THE SHIP WAS **AT THE LAND** WHITHER THEY WENT

- ✓ Jesus brought *stability* and *peace* to the disciples' earthly problems.
 - **Mt 14:32** – And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.
 - **Mt 14:33** – Then they... **worshipped him**... Of a truth thou art the Son of God.
 - **Mk 6:51** – ...they were **sore amazed** ... beyond measure, and **wondered**.
 - **Mk 6:52** – **For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened.**
 - **Lk 24:28** – And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and **HE MADE AS THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE GONE FURTHER...**

And WOULD HAVE passed by them. 

*It is evident that Jesus **WOULD HAVE WALKED PAST THEM** on the water. The only reasonable explanation is that He wanted them to ASK Him for help! What a truth! What is your situation today that you are rowing like crazy to save yourself from? Jesus is praying for you. Jesus can help you. Ask Him for help.*