SERMON NOTES:

Series: Mark -The Simple Gospel | Week 22: Trouble on the Water

Mark 6:45-56 (NLT) Jesus Walks on Water

⁴⁵ Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and head across the lake to Bethsaida, while he sent the people home. ⁴⁶ After telling everyone good-bye, he went up into the hills by himself to pray.

⁴⁷ Late that night, the disciples were in their boat in the middle of the lake, and Jesus was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw that they were in serious trouble, rowing hard and struggling against the wind and waves. About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. He intended to go past them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the water, they cried out in terror, thinking he was a ghost. ⁵⁰ They were all terrified when they saw him.

But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage! I am here!" ⁵¹Then he climbed into the boat, and the wind stopped. They were totally amazed, ⁵² for they still didn't understand the significance of the miracle of the loaves. Their hearts were too hard to take it in. ⁵³After they had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret. They brought the boat to shore ⁵⁴ and climbed out. The people recognized Jesus at once, ⁵⁵ and they ran throughout the whole area, carrying sick people on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ Wherever he went—in villages, cities, or the countryside—they brought the sick out to the marketplaces. They begged him to let the sick touch at least the fringe of his robe, and all who touched him were healed.

John 6:14-15 (NLT)

¹⁴ When the people saw him do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, "Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!" ¹⁵ When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

They are in serious trouble because they obeyed Jesus!

It was obedience that made them so uncomfortable.

"Never climb a mountain and you will never bruise your shins, but you will never stand on its peak exulting in victory in the alpine air. Never play baseball and you will never strike out, but you will never hit a home run either. Never obey Christ and you might miss some of life's contrary winds, but you will also never know the winds of the Holy Spirit in your sails bearing you on in service and power!"

- R. Kent Hughes

Theophany: a visible manifestation to humankind of God.

Exodus 33:18-19 (NLT)

- ¹⁸ Moses responded, "Then show me your glorious presence."
- ¹⁹The Lord replied, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and I will call out my name, Yahweh, before you. For I will show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose."

1 Kings 19:11a (NLT)

¹¹ "Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the Lord told him. And as Elijah stood there, the Lord passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain.

Job 9:8-11 (NIV)

- ⁸ He alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea.
- ⁹ He is the Maker of the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the constellations of the south.
- ¹⁰ He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted.
- ¹¹ When he passes me, I cannot see him; when he goes by, I cannot perceive him.

Matthew 14:28-31 (NLT)

- ²⁸Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." ²⁹ "Yes, come," Jesus said.
- So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.
- ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"

REMEMBER...

- Jesus prays for us.
- Jesus sees us in our struggles.
- Jesus meets us in the hour of our need.

Trouble on the water, is no problem for Jesus.