

When the Storm Comes

Uncontrollable, unforeseeable, and threatening

Is Jesus sleeping on the job?

BIG IDEA: There is a God. Who is sovereign. Who we can trust. Because he went under the waves for us.

There is a God

Back to the real Jesus

*Incredible, seemingly unbelievable, myth-like story
Detailed, undeniably specific, eyewitness like history*

Not a myth

Ancient myths did not have irrelevant details

Just as he was; Other boats were with him; He was in the stern; Asleep on the cushion

This belongs to the genre of eyewitness testimony

“Either these are eyewitness reports, or Mark, without any successors or predecessors, suddenly anticipated modern narrative realistic fiction, and then it stopped.” – Tim Keller

Who is Sovereign

Only God can control the waves and the wind

Jesus talks to the storm like it is a little child. And it becomes “mega calm” – crystal calm like glass.

“If there was one consensus point among all ancient cultures, it is that the sea was uncontrollable to anyone but God.” – Tim Keller

In the apocrypha, 2 Maccabees 9:8 “Thus he who had just been thinking that he could command the waves of the sea, **in his superhuman arrogance...**” (Later he is called a blasphemer)

OT Background

Genesis 14: 15, 21 “The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward... Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.”

Who We Can Trust

God, don't you care?

v. 38 “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”

A famous challenge to belief (from the Greek philosopher, Epicurus)

1. If God is unable to prevent evil, then he is not all powerful.
2. If God is not willing to prevent evil, then he is not all-good.
3. If God is both willing and able to prevent evil, then why does evil exist?

Because He Went into the Waves For Us

Compare to Jonah

The problem of evil is solved by the cross

Questions for Personal Study

1. Are you facing a storm today? What is it?
2. How do you reconcile Jesus' sovereignty with the reality of evil?
3. Do you feel like you need to have control? Why is letting go of control hard?
4. How has Jesus earned your trust? How does this story help you grow in faith?