

The Sinking Storm

Matthew 8:23-24

Jesus enters the ship and out of nowhere, a tempest came.

The definition of a hurricane is a storm with a violent wind, in particular a tropical cyclone.

A tempest meaning is a violent windy storm.

Do you mean to tell me a hurricane came out of nowhere? But I want you to pay attention to the definition. This is not just a wind storm but a violent windstorm. This wind storm was sent to make them turn around. This wind storm was sent to make them not accomplish what there were supposed to do. But I am wondering what violent thing happened to you that made you think not to do what you were called to do?

Some of us have been abused physically and mentally. Some of us have had problems with some sort of addiction. Some of us don't even know who we are supposed to be anymore because the violence that happened to us was traumatic. It was like a hurricane came in and sweep away old you, the innocent you, and replaced it with a shell of who you were once before.

If you have never been through an experience don't worry about it, I will be over soon. But for the ones who have been through something, you know what it means to come out with scars and bruises. You know what it means when the storm hits.

It is interesting that if you are in an area where there is a tornado, they will alert your phone, they have outdoor sirens, tv, and radio cut off whatever is playing to make sure you get the warning, but life doesn't work like that. The violence that happened to you came without a warning.

Mark 4:35-37

Mark gives us a little better picture of what was going on. There were other little ships around them and the waves beat into the ship that water was now filling up the ship. If a ship is full of water it can no longer float, it has to sink.

Some of us have been going through so many bad times that it feels like we are sinking. You faced the violent storm and now you are facing the aftermath. We just spent the month paying this bill and then they send you another bill. I am sinking. I just left one bad relationship and now I am in a worse one, I am sinking. I have finally recognized and faced my trauma and now something else is come up. I feel like I am on top of my addiction, now someone is offering my drug of choice for free, and I am sinking. I thought I was good, but in reality, I am sinking. There is too much water going into this boat. I have faced this all alone and I am tired of being strong.

But did you know a boat doesn't really sink the way you expect it to, it actually will toss over everything before it full sinks. I will turn to the right or to the left as if it was trying to save itself. When you have been through so much, you become like the boat that is capsizing. You begin to through things away and push people away because you are trying to stay afloat. You push them so far away that now you don't even have friends, but you can no longer trust anyone.

Luke 8:22-25

Here Luke adds his spin on the situation. He tells us as they were on their way, that Jesus fell asleep. Then the storm came out of nowhere and the ship was filling up with water and they were in Jeopardy. Their lives were on the line. This is the end before it even begins. So they rushed to wake up Jesus.

You might have been through the storm, You might have been through the aftermath, You might have been sinking and your world was in jeopardy, but you knew who to run to. You knew who to call. It wasn't your neighbor and best friend. It was Jesus. The reason you are not drowning in whatever you were drowning in is that no matter how you see it, Jesus is the one who calmed the storm. Jesus is the one who put the Peace back in the pieces.

It was always interesting to me because the moment something like this happens normal thinking people would have jumped ship. The stress you have been under and the problems you were facing, it is only because of God that you didn't jump ship. But the reason they didn't jump ship is that you ran to the one whose name is a strong tower. You ran to the one who was your rock and salvation. You ran to one who can get up from out of the miry clay. If you don't know they ran to Jesus. In the Bible, it says He took care of you even though you didn't know him.

But why did Jesus scold them? Maybe He was grumpy because they woke him up. But why would he say where is your faith? Because Jesus knew something that nobody paid attention to. As long as he is on your ship, no matter how violent the

storm is, no matter how much water comes on your ship, as long as He is on your ship, it will never sink.

It doesn't matter how much you are going through right now, you won't drown. It doesn't matter how many times they bring up your past, You won't sink. It doesn't matter what they called you and did to you, you are still floating. Because you are still floating, know it is Jesus who is keeping you up.

But there is another wind I want to talk about before I go.

Acts 2:1-4

The day of Pentecost came. They were in one room all minds were on the same thing. Then came a sound. The sound didn't sound like water, but like a violent rushing wind. And it filled the place where they were and they began to speak in cloven tongues then full tongues.

It is interesting to me that the wind that was attacking the boat was sent to stop them, while the sound of this wind was to encourage them. The truth is what has happened to you was sent by the enemy to destroy you, but God is about to do a new thing that will turn your coals into diamonds.

You will not now or ever sink because Jesus is with you.