

Jesus On Purpose: The Path Of A Resurrected Heart

SERMON 12: “Why Are You So Afraid?”

Texts: Matthew 8; Mark 4; Matthew 14

Core Revelation

Miracles do not remove fear—they expose where trust has not been formed.
Jesus does not rebuke weakness—He confronts a heart that resists surrender.

A resurrected heart trusts within the storm.

A human heart waits for the storm to end.

I. FEAR IS A FAILURE TO REMEMBER WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY DONE

The disciples had already seen:

- power over sickness
- power over demons
- power over nature

Yet in the storm, they panic.

This is not lack of evidence—this is **a failure to remember and live from what has already been revealed.**

Jesus asks: “Do you still have no faith?”

He is not questioning their ability— He is exposing their **heart posture.**

As Humans unwilling to leave this world system behind we **react to the moment, forget past faithfulness** and **we live from present fear**

The resurrected heart Jesus wants us to have **remembers what God has done, interprets the storm through truth** and **stands on revelation, not reaction**

II. SELECTIVE FAITH: “TRUST WHEN IT MAKES SENSE”

Peter walks on water. That is real faith. But it is unstable.

- I recently came across a reality that saddens me, it’s not truth but it is a fact that many Christians are bound by.....and that is many Christians living in sin, or in the inability to release control and surrender to God is bound due to the lack of Fear.

There is ungodly fear that makes you afraid, Godly fear is different. Its fruit is honor and respect, but at its core Godly fear is being terrified of His absence.

You can truly love God, Love Jesus and lack the fear of God that permits you to live a life that lacks the faith of a resurrected heart. Because the very essence of a resurrected heart is to believe in a promise that seems so unnatural to our cognitive reality and an illusion that faith in God is a made up aberration of weak people, that we live a life so faithful to Him despite those two pressures and the thousand others that exist only because the biggest fear we have at our core is that **“If”** He is real we do not want to be at risk of missing out being on the wrong side.

I wrote this statement from a very skeptical perspective, because if we are true to ourselves we are constantly battling in our hearts, despite the reality of the evidence He has given us personally, if He is real, and that chatter intensifies more when are in the midst of pressure.

- Fear is born out of intimacy, because only in intimacy can you truly say, I can not be without the other.

- Peter shifts his focus because at this point him and the other 12 loved Jesus, but they have yet to understand the fear of God

The minute Peter shifts His focus from Jesus → to the storm ; from presence → to pressure

He sinks.

What emerges across these accounts is a pattern of *selective faith*. Peter demonstrates this precisely: he exercises faith initially and walks on water, but the moment his attention shifts to the storm's reality, he sinks.

***** Fear of God's unreasonable call** (or at least what our heart truly believes as unreasonable, such as in the resurrection) ensnares us believers in **false security** of their our making, **preventing us from living in God's freedom**.

This suggests Jesus's frustration targets not human limitation but the heart's preference for self-protective systems *over radical trust*.

III. UNGODLY FEAR DISTORTS HOW WE SEE JESUS

Jesus's appearance walking on water represents divine power breaking through human fear, yet the disciples fail to recognize him, **blinded by anxiety**. This is a warning to us of the natural reaction to the human heart in the midst of pressure.

Righteousness leads to undistorted Fear- Between the Beatitudes and Jesus walking on water the sermon on the mount covers the foundation of living righteous, so that when you see He who is righteous, you can identify Him and Trust Him.

Let's Recap was righteous living looks like:

MT 5:13-16 You are the salt of the earth—live in a way that brings change. Don't lose what makes you distinct, or you lose your worth and become useless. You are the light of the world—a city on a hill. Don't hide it. Let your life be seen.

V.17 ' "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ' "

V.21,22 "You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' ²²But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.

V. 27 "You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. .

What does He say about divorce, and how its committing adultery if you marry a divorcee.

Or making vows or taking revenge. How about loving your enemies?

In **Mt. 6**, Jesus teaches us to give to the needy, Pray and Fast regularly.

How about ¹⁹ ***“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.”***²⁰ ***But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”***²¹ ***For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Mt 6:19-21)***

He tells us not to worry, because tomorrow has its own issues. Trust Him

-This is my favorite, because it’s used by so many as an excuse not to hear you shower them in conviction:

¹ ***“Do not judge, or you too will be judged.”***² ***For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*** ³ ***“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?”*** ⁴ ***How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?”*** ⁵ ***You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. (MT 7:1-5)***

He tells us to ask, seek and knock and it will be given to us.

He then warns us in **Mt 7:13-** ***“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.***

Tells us about True and False prophets and disciples

²¹ ***“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”***²² ***Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’***²³ ***Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’***

- In Matthew Chapters 5,6,and 7 Jesus spends time explain in detail what to be like and what not to be like and warns us of the consequences of not doing it.

Why doesn’t He spend time telling us the good things about doing those things? Because He is the Good thing, He is the reward. He is our reward just as we are His reward.

That realization is cultivated through intimacy, and its called the Fear of the Lord..... You know what Lord means.....**OWNER** He owns us, that’s why we are to be slaves to love.

IV. JESUS’ FRUSTRATION: A HEART THAT CHOOSES CONTROL OVER TRUST

The tragedy isn’t their weakness but their blindness—the disciples cannot perceive his presence because fear has colonized their perception. Even as Jesus attempts to calm their fears, they remain unprepared to hear him until Peter’s faith and the storm’s cessation finally produce worship.

But Jesus is not frustrated because they are weak.

He is frustrated because: **they still choose fear over trust—even after revelation.**

The lesson here is that we are weak and feeble, the resurrected heart must be battletested constantly. Does it makes sense why Peter says in **Romans 5:** ***“And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint,***

So the big obvious question here is why, Why does our feeble heart need to change and why does that change have to be surrounded by constant testing.

The simple answer which strikes fear in those who lack the Fear of God, that intimacy with Him, and the product of that resurrected heart, is the ultimate testing that will crush the head of the enemy. What Daniel calls Jacob's trouble, what we know was Tribulation. Just as the disciples were shaken at the death of Jesus, so will the last generation be shaken before the coming of the glorious one.

Jesus' frustration, my frustration is not that our heart is weak...you can make a weak heart strong...it's a heart that quits.

- Resurrection faith demands a different *quality* of trust—not belief *after* deliverance, but trust *within* the storm. The disciples required proof; Jesus calls for surrender before the evidence resolves. This gap between what he offers (presence and power) and what they demand (safety and certainty) is where his disappointment lives.

***At the end of the day Jesus is not just calming storms—He is forming a heart that no longer needs them to be calm to trust Him.

The need to control our feeling of safety and self-perseverance, if we are honest is shabby at best. It is not even a good option. If it were a product to buy many of us would have switched to something different. But just as dogs return to its vomit, so we return to the very same tactics that bring us more misery. We rather go down with the ship that's sinking than try to swim to shore.

But resurrection life flows through a heart that says:

"Your presence is enough—even here." Because I believe in your promises, less on the proof you have offered me, but more because of the intimacy we have created.