

FAITH OVER FEAR

By Dr. Tony Evans
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Tests are designed to determine if the student has learned what was taught in **preparation** for going from one grade to the **next**.

A good teacher will only test on information that has **already been taught**. Part of our curriculum in life, is the **testing of our faith**.

The teacher's desire is to take our faith from **theory** to **activity**.

*35 On that day, when evening came, He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side." 36 Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him. 37 And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. **Mark 4:35-37 (NASB)***

We learn from Jesus' disciples that...

Being in a storm and in the will of God can happen simultaneously.

*38 Jesus Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" **Mark 4:38 (NASB)***

**The teacher is most quiet during the test
(Jesus was in the boat but was not yet moving).**

The disciples were facing 3 storms:

1. **External** Storm (things that threaten our physical being)
2. **Internal/Emotional** Storm (things that make us fearful)
3. **Spiritual** Storm (things that challenge our faith/make us doubt Jesus)

*39 And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Hush, be still." And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. **Mark 4:39 (NASB)***

Peace has nothing to do with external circumstances. Peace has to do with internal calm regardless of external circumstances.

*40 And He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" **Mark 4:40 (NASB)***

**God wants his people to appeal to His Word in the midst of their storm (test).
God wants to grow us through the storm.**

This is a time to have Biblical faith. Faith is acting like God is telling the truth.

41 They became very much afraid and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" **Mark 4:41 (NASB)**

God wants us to **fear Him more than we fear our **circumstances and our problems**.**

Jesus is **fully God and **fully man** ("Hypostatic Union"). He is the glorified Son of God and the means to which to get to the Father.**

Jesus will **retest us as often as needed because **He wants us to pass**.**

We must **pass the test in order to **go to the next level**.**

