

# THE GOSPEL OF MARK: MIRACLES - Part 1

## Jesus Calms the Storm

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Part of The Gospel of Mark - Miracles

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People have a huge fascination with miracles, often for very different reasons.

**38%** of US adults claim they have *personally experienced a miracle*.

We can't simply say miracles are supernatural events because the Bible shows us that Satan and forces of evil can, at times, wield supernatural power.

*A miracle is an event (1) brought about by the power of God that is (2) a temporary (3) exception (4) to the ordinary course of nature (5) for the purpose of showing*

*that God has acted in history.*

*—Professor Richard L. Purtill*

**Miracles point to the Kingdom of God and what it will one day be like, when sin and death are conquered and destroyed.**

**Miracles are typically *not* self-serving *but* Kingdom-serving!**

*Peter: “People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know.”*

*—Acts 2:22 (NLT)*

**As we turn to the Bible and specifically look at the life of Jesus, we see two types of miracles - healing miracles and nature miracles.**



*As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed).*

—Mark 4:35-36 (NLT)



*But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water.*

—Mark 4:37 (NLT)



*Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?"*

—Mark 4:38 (NLT)

**Clearly the disciples are panicked, with even experienced fishermen among them very concerned.**

**How many of us have found ourselves in a difficult spot, a desperate spot, and we don't see a way forward?**



**What happens when we find ourselves in a storm in life, perhaps not even of our own making, but we also believe Jesus is with us because we have put our faith in Jesus?**

*When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm.*

—Mark 4:39 (NLT)

**Jesus commands the wind and waves, and they obey!**

*You [O LORD] rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them.*

—Psalms 89:9 (ESV)

**Jesus may not help us go around the storm, but he will help us find peace in its midst.**

*Their ships were tossed to the heavens and plunged again to the depths; the sailors cringed in terror. They reeled and staggered like drunkards and were at their wits' end. "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He calmed the storm to a whisper and stilled the waves. What a blessing was that stillness as he brought them safely into harbor! Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them. Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation and before the leaders of the nation.*

—Psalms 107:26-32 (NLT)

**The good news is that Jesus goes with those of us who have committed our lives to him - we are not alone - he can bring peace and calm into any situation.**

**Unfortunately, like the disciples, we fail to remember who is with us in the midst of our storms.**

*Then [Jesus] asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"*

—Mark 4:40-41 (NLT)

**Jesus is not the author of the storm but the One who puts the storm in its place.**

**Even though they didn't have him fully figured out, the disciples turned their eyes to Jesus and his power, and their**

**attention and emotion changed from fear of the storm to awe of their Savior and Lord.**

**Next Week - Miracles, Part 2 (Mark 5:1-20) *(read ahead)***