

The Book of John - 36

Introduction - In **verses 16-18**, we are introduced to the second demonstration of the Lord's Power in Miracles, the walking on the water. We saw the Disciple's **descent to the sea** in verses **16-17**. Secondly, we saw the **darkness and despair they faced** in verses **17 and 18**.

In **verse 19**, we now read about:

The _____ of the Savior vs. 19

John 6:19 *"19 So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid."*

Now notice with me **verse 17**.

The Bible says in John 6:17, *"17 And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them."*

Was the Lord late? Perhaps from our perspective, we might think that **if the Lord had been there** from the beginning, they would not have had to deal with the storm. Let me ask further: Did the Lord forget about the disciples? Or maybe ask it this way: was there a purpose in the disciples going through the storm? Hold your finger there and turn with me for a moment to **John 11**. In **verses 1-15**, we read of a peculiar incident in the life of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. **Verse 15** explains to us the greater purpose—given by God for sending Lazarus, Martha, and Mary through the storm.

Verse 15 tells us these marvelous words (**John 11:15**) *"15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him."*

Oh, my friend, understand what Paul states by way of testimony to the Lord's intent in **Philippians 1:12** *"12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me **have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;**"*

The _____ of Fear vs. 20-21

John 6:20-21 *"20 But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid. 21 Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went."*

We see a vital principle given by the Lord. He states in **verse 21**—notice what He says—*"It is I..."*

F.B. Meyer had this to say, “He knew when he pressed the disciples into the boat that the night would be full of storm, but He did not hesitate to expose them to its peril; he was conscious of His ability to turn that storm to the highest use by coming to their help.”

This past week at Junior Camp, we looked at the phrase in **Romans 8:37**, “...we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.”

For the young folks, I presented a list of opposing words — on the one side of this were Bible words which spoke to the conquering Christian— the one that reckons that Bible to be true. The first set I presented to the young people is pertinent to our passage here in **John 6** and is also seen in **Mark 4**— a record very similar to this record. Do you see the two words in **verse 40**?

The Bible says in **Mark 4:40**, “40 And he said unto them, **Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?**”

He asks, Why are you so fearful? Why are you full of fear? And then he asks, How is it you have no faith? The Lord lovingly instructs these followers of His; He connects this matter of fear and faith. Perhaps—it is that they do not understand who He is. Remember, in **John 6**, the Lord begins by declaring, “It is I...” Why are you so fearful, Christian? Is God in control?

The antidote **to fear — is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ**. The Lord says to the disciples in **John 6**, it is I be not afraid. We sing a blessed hymn — it is entitled Faith is the victory... **verse 2 of that hymn** says

His banner over us is love,
Our sword the Word of God;
We tread the road the saints before
With shouts of triumph trod.
By faith, they like a whirlwind's breath,
Swept on o'er every field;
The faith by which they conquered death
Is still our shining shield.
Faith is the victory!
Faith is the victory!
O glorious victory,
That overcomes the world.

In **Mark 4** and **John 6**, a storm overtakes the disciples without notice. Some have given credit to the Prince of the Power of the Air for the storm that threatened the lives of these disciples. In Mark's account, we find that on that occasion, the Bible is careful to let us know that it is a storm of wind (**vs.37**). And since the Devil is called the Prince of the

Power of the Air in **Ephesians 2:2**, they see a connection to this event. What is needed in the life of a Christian is to know the Lord. The dispelling of fear came from the revelation of the Lord— It is I— be not afraid.

The Bible says, **John 6:21**, “21 Then **they willingly received him** into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.”

Those are such beautiful words, the Bible records for you and me, that the disciples willingly received Him. Are you willing to receive Him? That is the question— you might say well, I am a Christian; I have already received Him. Well, that’s good. Are you going to continue to yield to Him? Yielding to God and His Word is that moment-by-moment process found in **Romans 6**.

Romans 6:11–14 “11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

The first key to success is found in **verse 11**.

1. **Think** like a Christian. **vs. 11**

Paul tells us, first of all, to think like a Christian. He states, **Romans 6:11** “11 Likewise **reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**”

A Christian needs to declare to themselves—on the authority of God’s Word— I am dead to sin... I am alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. **My friend, we are to reckon ourselves dead to sin and alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

2. **Fight** like a Christian. **vs. 12**

Romans 6:12 “12 **Let not** sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.”

The word ‘reign’ means to rule. Fight against the old nature and yield to the Holy Spirit. The conquering Christian should not allow sin to reign —to rule. We must fight like a Christian—do not allow sin to reign in your life by giving in to temptation. But then, lastly, **verse 13** tells us we must Act like a Christian.

3. **Act Like A Christian vs. 13**

Romans 6:13 *“13 Neither **yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness** unto sin: but **yield yourselves unto God**, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members **as instruments of righteousness** unto God.”*

When Paul says **members**, he is speaking **about the body** that God has given you. The word instruments means tool. A tool is for getting a job done. In other words, all God has given me, especially my body, ought to be used as a tool of right action for God.

Philippians 2:13 says, *“13 For it is God which worketh in you **both to will and to do** of his good pleasure.”*

4. **Victory is for the Christian. vs. 14**

Romans 6:14 *“14 For sin **shall not have dominion over you**: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”*

Let's go back to our passage in **John 6**. Notice with me the result of the reception. After they received Him we see that they made it to their destination. We might say it this way, having the Lord received by them— they made it to God's determined destination for them.