

Exegetical Notes, Mark 4:35-41

“Master, The Tempest Is Raging”

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Mark 4:35-41

Verse 35-36

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him.

- In the late afternoon, after a long day teaching, Jesus suggested to his disciples that they cross to the other side of the lake by boat. Without delay, they set off.

Verse 37

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped.

- Fierce thunderstorms are not uncommon in late afternoon on the Sea of Galilee. Such a storm arose. However, this storm was abnormally strong. The waves crashed over the sides of the small boat filling it with water. It was on the verge of sinking.

Verse 38

Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

- Jesus was exhausted from his long day. He had fallen asleep in the boat and remained asleep, despite the storm, until the disciples woke him.

Verse 39

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

- Jesus told the wind to stop blowing and commanded the waves to calm down. They did. A supernatural calm settled on the scene!

Verse 40

He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

- Jesus questioned the disciples about their fear and suggested that it was the result of too little faith.

Verse 41

They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

- The disciples were absolutely amazed at what they had seen Jesus do. His power frightened them. Clearly, they still had no idea that he was the Son of God!

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *Master, The Tempest is Raging*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by *Cornerstone Fellowship* & The Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen. They are used here by permission.)