

The Lesson of Jonah



Mark 4:35 – 5:1a

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he 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?”

And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

And they came to the other side of the sea . . .



The Sea of Galilee

- Jesus and the disciples were in the north
- The crossed to the east near Khera/Hippus
- Khera and Hippus are in the Decapolis

Crossing to the other side

- Jesus wanted to get away from the crowd.
- The other side is the Decapolis, where the Gentiles lived.
- Jews avoided the area, and the disciples likely did not want to go.
- But the disciples don't hesitate. If that's where Jesus wants to go, then that's where they'll go.

They went just as Jesus was

- Jesus had been teaching all day, he was likely very tired.
- The disciples “took” Jesus. It’s as if the disciples are taking care of Jesus.

There were other boats

- Only Mark mentions this, not Luke or Matthew.
- What happened to these boats?

The storm comes

- Jesus knew the storm was coming?
- God sent the storm?
- The storm is the main point of this story.
- The journey of this boat is a picture of the journey of life.

The disciples are afraid; Jesus is asleep

- It had to be a very bad storm for experienced fishermen to be afraid.
- Not the contrast between Jesus, sleeping, and the terrified disciples.
- How could Jesus be asleep? Maybe he was exhausted?

Jesus calms the storm



Jesus stood and waved his arms



Standing and waving his arms





Even our kids
know this



The sea is still



Resulting peace: sun, remnants of clouds



The disciples fear and wonder

Follower Of One 

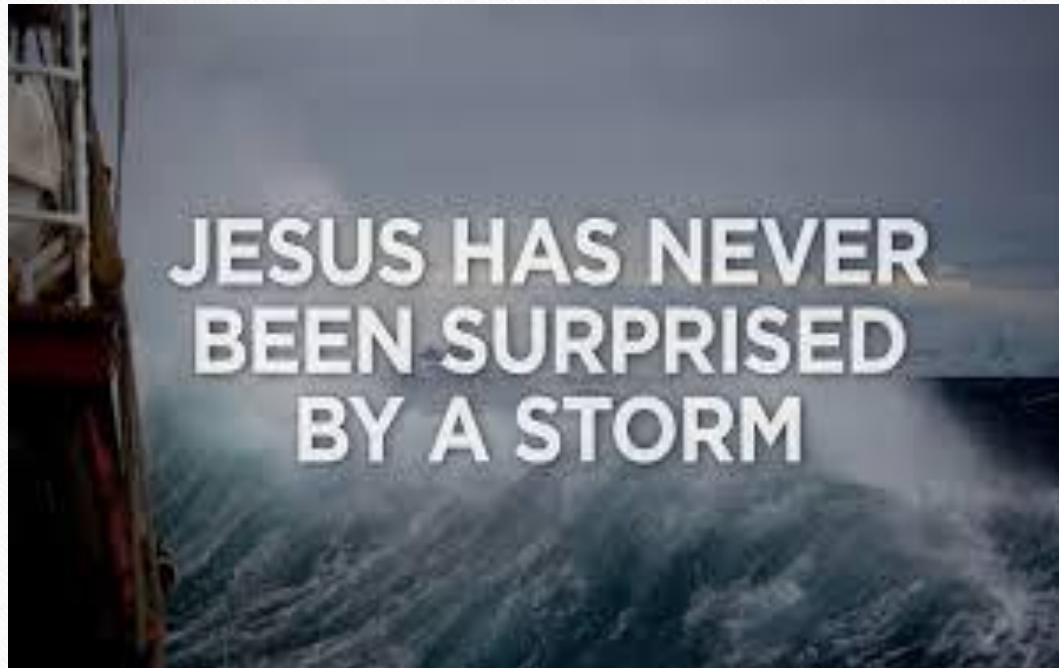
**HE SAID TO THEM, "WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID?
HAVE YOU STILL NO FAITH?" AND THEY WERE
FILLED WITH GREAT FEAR AND SAID TO ONE
ANOTHER, "WHO THEN IS THIS, THAT EVEN
THE WIND AND THE SEA OBEY HIM?"**

Mark 4:40-41 ESV

Trust Jesus during the storms of life



Jesus will get us through



Is there more?

How old were the disciples?



What if they were teenagers?



Just as Jesus was

- In Mark, the phrase is written in Greek.
- In Hebrew, the phrase implies that there is an unresolved disagreement.
- Is this Mark's way of saying that the disciples were strongly against going to the other side?

Chiasm

4:38b:
“Don’t
you
care?”

4:38a:
Jesus
sleeps

4:39a:
Jesus
awakes

4:37:
storm
rages

4:39b:
storm is
calmed

4:36:
Jesus with
disciples

4:40-41:
Jesus with
disciples

4:35: the
other side

5:1: the
other side

PaRDeS

- Peshat (“plain”): The literal meaning of the text.
- Remez (“hint”): Does the literal meaning point to or hint at another passage in the bible?
- Drash (“seek”): What is the comparative meaning of the “peshat” and the “remez”?
- Sod (“mystery”): Meaning that is revealed only by God.

The remez (“hint”) of Jonah

Mark 4:37-38:

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he 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?”

Jonah 1:4-6:

But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. So, the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

The remez (“hint”) of Psalm 107

And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he 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?”

And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Psalm 107:23-30:

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the great waters; they saw the deeds of the LORD, his wondrous works in the deep.

For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted the waves of the sea. They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their evil plight; they reeled and staggered like drunken men and were at their wits' end.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

The remez (“hint”) of Psalm 89

And they were filled with **great fear** and said to one another, “**Who then is this**, that **even the wind and the sea obey him?**”

Psalm 89:6-9:

For **whom in the skies can be compared to the LORD?**

Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD, a God **greatly to be feared** in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him?

O LORD God of hosts, **who is mighty as you are,**
O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you?

You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise,
you still them.

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