

SURVIVING THE STORM

“Understanding God’s Point, Plan and Purpose in Every Storm”

INTRODUCTION

Reference: **James 1:2-4** (count it all joy); **Romans 8:28** (all things work together for good); **Jeremiah 29:11** (His thoughts are not ours); **1 Peter 1:6-7** (trial of your faith; might be found unto praise)

At some point, we all will be in one of these positions: (1) just coming out of a storm, (2) in one right now, or (3) one is on the horizon. Some storms do not send a warning, they don’t ask for permission; nor do they care how strong you think you are. The question is: **when the storm shows up, do you know what to do?** You do not survive storms by panic or pretending—you survive storms by your response.

Psalm 107:29 reminds us that God makes the storm a calm, and Ecclesiastes 9:11 reminds us that *life happens to us all*. So this lesson is not about avoiding storms, but learning how to survive them.

I. STORMS REQUIRE A RESPONSE

Every natural storm requires action, and so does every storm in life. You do not survive a storm by ignoring it. You survive by responding correctly.

II. OBEDIENCE DOES NOT CANCEL STORMS

In **Mark 4:35–41**, Jesus told the disciples to go to the other side, yet a storm still arose. This teaches us that obedience does not eliminate opposition. Just because it got hard does not mean you got it wrong.

III. STORMS REVEAL WHAT IS IN YOU

In **Luke 8:25**, Jesus asked, *‘Where is your faith?’* Storms reveal whether we are operating in faith or fear. They expose what is truly within us.

IV. FIVE KEYS TO SURVIVING THE STORM

1. TAKE COVER

Stay under God’s presence. **Psalm 91:1** and **Proverbs 18:10** remind us that God is our refuge and strong tower. When life becomes overwhelming, run to Him.

2. STOP MOVING BLINDLY

Do not make emotional decisions. **Proverbs 3:5–6** and **Isaiah 30:21** teach us to trust God’s direction. When you cannot see clearly, slow down and listen for His voice.

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3. PRESERVE YOUR STRENGTH

Do not burn out. **Isaiah 40:31** and **Matthew 11:28** remind us that God renews our strength and gives us rest. Take time to be refilled spiritually.

4. STAY LOW (HUMBLE YOURSELF)

James 4:10 and 1 Peter 5:6 teach us that humility positions us under God’s covering. Pride exposes, but humility protects.

5. MOVE TO HIGHER GROUND

Elevate your thinking. Isaiah 55:8–9 and Colossians 3:2 remind us that God’s ways are higher. Set your mind on things above so you are not overwhelmed by what is happening around you.

Final thought:

You do not survive storms by panic. You survive by position, obedience, and staying connected to God. The difference between survival and destruction is often not the storm, but your response. **Do not panic. Do not be moved by what you see. Respond in faith. Stay in position.**