

Overcoming The Storms

Sermon Title: **Overcoming The Storms**

Sermon Number: **6526**

Speaker: **Mark Stroud**

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Mark Stroud: You are child of God; you are related to God by blood.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:20 - 00:00:56)

Female: And now for 6526, Overcoming The Storms.

Mark Stroud: Thank you for going us for Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the Word. Hallelujah. All right. Well, tonight, I want to bring you just a word of encouragement, I believe also a prophetic utterance from a very familiar case of scripture, from a very familiar account and I pray that the Lord would just breath on you something wonderful as we get into this Word tonight. So, let's get right into it. We want to speak from the subject of overcoming the storms, overcoming the storms. Hallelujah, and we'll get into that.

So, let's go to the Book of Mark. Mark, the fourth chapter, Mark 4 and we're going to read verses 35 through to 41. I just love the Lord Jesus and I get so excited talking about Him. He is my hero! You know, He is my hero! I want to be like Jesus. Hallelujah. The more I read the Word of God, the more I see how He deals with different situations, I'm just at awe, I'm just at wonder. You know, He is the Perfect Man. Hallelujah. The Perfect Man. Hallelujah. And every time I just -- it makes us wonderful.

Okay, let's get in to it. Otherwise, let's get in to it. All right, Mark the Fourth Verses 35 through 41, and it reads like this. It says, "And the same day, when evening came, he said unto them, 'Let us past over on to the other side.' And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow." All right calm down, here we go. "And he was asleep on a pillow and they awake him, and say unto him, 'Master, carest thou not, that we perish?' and He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace, be still!' And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. And He said unto them, 'Why are ye so fearful? Why are ye so fearful? How was it that ye have no faith?' And

they feared exceedingly and said one to another, ‘What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’” That’s my Jesus, hallelujah.

All right. So, let’s get into this. I really want to show you if we can just, we go a little bit deeper beyond the surface, go a little bit deeper down and let’s really get in to this. So, first of all, we see that Jesus has had a long day and He has preached to the multitudes and they sent the people away, and now He is tired. He is all God, but yet and still, He is all man. And Jesus, the man is tired and he gives his disciples a word, “Let us go over unto the side.” Jesus has an appointment, on the other side of the lake. Whenever he goes from point A to point B, it’s always for a purpose, always for a purpose. But there is a storm that is between point A and point B, right? And that’s what we’re talking about tonight, overcoming the storms.

Now, there is a reason why the storm came up. First of all, let me tell you this that, storms arise for two reasons out of this text that I can see here tonight. One, storms arise, because of who you’re carrying, who is with you on the boat, because of who’s with you. Of course, they were carrying Christ with them. And secondly, storms arise, because of where you’re going, because of where you’re going. Actually, in Mark Fifth Chapter, the very next chapter over, Jesus is about to go over and confront the demoniac at Gadarene the Gadarene demoniac.

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And that was the man that’s filled with the legion of devils, right? The legion of devils and Jesus was going to go over and confront the man, confront him. Now, the Bible declares also in the Book of Luke, I believe, Luke Eight Chapter that, that the demoniac man prevented people from going into that area. He was a very fierce individual, very fierce, fill with lots of demons and he wore no cloths and he lived in the tombs, he lived in the cave. And the Bible declares also, I think, in the Book of Mark, yes, that he would cut himself and cry out, cry out and just shrieks, really just horrible noises coming out of him. This man was filled with thousands of demons and he was preventing people from going into the coast of the Gadarene. Now, the name, Gadarene means, rewards at the end. Rewards at the end. So, grab this picture before we even really get into this, the enemy was trying to stop them from getting to rewards at the end. He will send a storm to

stop you from getting to your reward. So, Jesus was on an assignment with the disciples to go over and deliver this man that was held in captivity by the devil.

Now, who sent the storm? A lot of people say, "Well, it was God that sent the storm." But listen, if Satan cast out Satan, how can his kingdom stand? And if God stopped a storm that God calls, how can His kingdom stand? No, it was the enemy that sent the storm, so that Jesus and the disciples would not make it over to free this man that was filled with all these spirits. Because the enemy had a strong hold in the Country of Gadarene, it was a strong hold.

And you remember in that account, I don't know how to read it but, you remember in that account, how there were thousands herd of swine, there was a herd of swine there, about 2,000 Mark says, and about 2,000 swine and they were herding them, and the shepherds of the pig or the pig shepherds would have you, the pig herders, there you go. They were there and the demons said, "Hey! Don't stop for us to go out of the country. Let us go into the pigs." So, over the course, they go into the pigs and then, the pigs drowned in the ocean, we understand that, alright. All right.

So, this man is going to be delivered, Jesus is about to go over there and deliver him, and at the same time, the very big picture that we have to see is that, enemy send storms, he sent storms to prevent you from getting to your place of reward from your reward at the end. Hallelujah. Now, let's back up, let's backup. So, Jesus is tired and He is on the ship, right? They've took on the Bible says, "Even as he was into the ship and for a time, they had a pleasant journey I'm sure. But unbeknownst to them, the wind was kicking up. I'm sure it started very slowly, as Jesus now asleep in the midst of the sea, or rather not in the midst of the sea, but in the hinder parts of the boat, or in the stern of the boat. And the disciples the Bible said, "They were in jeopardy." The Book of Luke said, that they were jeopardy, they were in danger, because the boat began to fill up with water, the boat began to fill up with water.

Now, what caused the boat to fill up with water? Well, it was the wind. The enemy sent the wind to agitate, to stir up the water. The enemy sent the wind to stir up the water. What we know, that's no big deal, because we know that Bible declares that the devil is the prince of the power of the air. He is the author of the

storm and he sent the wind to agitate, or stir up the waters beneath the boat, right?

So much so, that what was meant to carry them from one to the other, remember? They were in a boat and they were floating on water. So, the water was meant to be their support, to support the boat from one side to the other. But grab a hold of this, here's another life lesson that we see here. The enemy is able to stir up your support, so that, your support is now not peaceful, but it is actually coming against you. Water under boat is good, but water in the boat is very bad, very bad. So, the water was their supporters, their supporters, and their supporters, because of the enemy, became their haters. Can you see that? The supporters became their haters, because they began to fill up the boat. So much the Bible said that, the disciples were afraid, they were terrified, they were in jeopardy, they were in real danger. Now, that's the big thing, not imaginary danger, they were in real danger. Luke says, they were in jeopardy.

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Luke says, they were in jeopardy. Now, they waited until they got in real danger before they went to ask Jesus, "Lord, help us out here. Something is bad, wrong. Don't You care that we're going to die here?" This was real, this was real danger, not imaginary, this was real. So let me bring this situation to you as well. Now, the Bible declares that, if we would look in the Greek, the Bible say that, there arose a storm of wind, a violent storm of wind. And if you look that word wind up, in the – w-I-n-d, if you look that up in the Greek, you'll find it means, a violent agitation of air, violent agitation of air. So again, the enemy stirred up the air. He stirred up the wind, he stirred it up, so that the waters would be agitated. So that that the waters under them would be agitated.

Now you'll understand that, because water represents people. And if the enemy can stir up your supporters, the people under you, if he can agitate them, make them fearful, make them afraid, they will react. Many people, when they're afraid, they get angry, they get hostile, they begin to cuss, they begin to fuss and all that stuff. And I often hear this word, "I don't care what people think of me." You know, when people say that, "I don't care what they think of me." They really do care? That's just the mechanism, they really do care, because if people really don't care what you

think about them, they don't even make a statement like that. They really do care. Are you hearing?

So, the enemy sends a storm to violently agitate the water, and the water is coming in the boat and now, they're in jeopardy. And I'm sure the devil is standing back and saying, "Ha, ha, ha, because I really got them, they're really in dire straits now." Really in dire straits. Because there's been no one, no one at least that we know of in history that could ever deal with wind, and that could ever deal with, command wind and could command sea. No one could command the natural elements like this. So the devil said, "I got him now. I got him!"

The disciples went to Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that we're in real jeopardy, we're in danger of drowning, danger of dying, don't you care about us?" Well, He gets up and then, He does the impossible and literally rebukes the wind. I can see Him going like, you know, it's raining, so He kind of, gets up, rebukes the wind rebukes the winds and tells the sea, "Calm down now, calm down. Peace, be still." And what was once blowing in all bluster of all this noise and all this agitation, now in an instant, became calm. In an instant became calm and the disciples were amazed.

And then, Jesus asked them this question, and we'll stay here for the next few minutes. He asked them, "Why are you so fearful?" Why are you so fearful? I mean, like, Lord, what do you mean? Don't you see this water in the boat here? Don't you see I have my pink slip from the job? I mean, they're about to put me out the house, this is real danger. Don't you see the test results? Don't you see the lab results? Don't you see the divorce paper on the table? Don't you see there's the death of something is here. This is real, not imaginary. This is real. Something is about to die, this is real. This is real. This is real.

But the Lord asked them, why are you so afraid? I mean, that's a perplexing question. Because Jesus, often asked questions like that, like, "Who touched Me?" In the middle of a crowd, everybody's thronging him, "Who touched Me?" Like, what? You'll see the multitudes thronging you, and You say who touched You? What? But He asked these perplexing questions. He asked, and all of a sudden, so again, He asked them, "Why are you so afraid?" And then He asked, "How is it that you have no faith?"

I love the way the amplifier breaks it down, it says, “How is it that you have no faith in Me?” Where is your faith in me? Because through this whole storm, Jesus said, “I’m right here. I’m not over yonder somewhere. I’m right here. How is it that you have no faith in Me?” So the question is again, “Why are you so fearful? I’m right here. “Why are you so afraid?” I understand being fearful in the situation, but “Why are you so fearful? Where is your faith in Me?” He said, “I’ve seen the test results, I see the water, I’m here with you, but don’t you understand, I gave you a preceding word, let’s go over to the other side,

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and there’s no demon in hell, no wind, no storm that will stop us from fulfilling the Word that I have given unto you, ‘Why are you so fearful? I have given you My preceding Word, and My presence is here with you. Why would you be so fearful?’”

And so the Lord said to them, “You know, I’m here with you. But we have even better now, because Jesus is not only with us, but He’s also in us.” You’re on an assignment, child of God. You have the preceding Word from God. And the Lord is with you, He is with you.

So the next question would be, alright Lord, “Well, what should we have done?” Let me leave you with this thought, “Why not, let’s go to sleep with Him, let’s go and relax with Him. Slide over, Jesus, slide over. I mean, that ticks the enemy off. I’ve created all this wind, this storm, this drama at home, this drama at the office, I’ve given you all of this evidence, things that you can see, things that you can hear. I’ve created all of this, and you just ignore it.

One of the highest forms of resistance, highest forms, is to ignore it. “Yeah, I’m not impressed with you, devil. I’m going to be here with the Lord, because He’s not impressed.” Who are we going to honor more? When we exercise or express that fear, we’re saying, “Devil, I’m giving you honor.” When the Lord gives us a preceding Word for someone, but we allow fear to come up, we’re saying, “Fear, Devil, Mr. Fear, I choose to honor you more than I do the living God.” Who are you honoring, who are you honoring?

Now, the Lord said again, “Why are you so fearful, why are you so fearful? Where is your faith in Me? I’m here with you.” So I

believe, “Hey, let’s, come on boys, let’s go to sleep with Him. We’re going to get there, we’re going to get there, we’re going to trust Him and rely in Jesus.” Then someone asks, “Well, what if you do that, but you die in that condition?” Well, I’d rather die in faith than live in doubt. I would rather close my eyes for the last time here, and open them in heaven with the Lord, saying, “Lord, I believed in You, I trusted in You with all of my heart to my dying day, than to be written on my tombstone, ‘Here lies a man that was so afraid that he never did anything.’ He doubted the power of God, he doubted that God could save him, he doubted that God can do this.

No, I want to live. And my friends, we’re going to live until we die. Live until you die. Dream big dreams. And don’t be afraid of the storms, because Jesus is with you. And when the enemy agitates the kids, or when, he agitates the husband, he comes and you’ve been home, and he comes in, “Roar, I had a raw day.” You know, and say, “Oh, that’s not my husband, who are you? “Instead, of railing back at him, go into a closet somewhere, go into another room and say, “Devil, I rebuke you in the Name of Jesus, you will get your hand off of my husband, you will get your hand off of my children. I rebuke you, wind, and I declare peace be unto my home, peace be unto this atmosphere in the name of Jesus.”

Halleluiah. Take authority over it. You are a child of God. You are related to God by blood. You are His blood child. You’re not a stepchild, you’re related to God by blood. His blood and your blood are one. He is in you, and you are in Him. Because of that, you’re victorious in any situation and every situation. You are from heaven. Your roots are not here in the earth. But we identify with our heavenly beginnings, we identify with being in Christ. And don’t you understand, the same power that’s within the head, is in the body? We’re called the body of Christ. So the same power that flows through Christ, our head flows through the body. I don’t know if we have any doctors in here or not, but I think it goes like this, where the same blood that flows through my head, also flows through my finger, also flows through my toe. I don’t think, I have a different blood type in my head than I have down in my whatever. I think, it’s the same amount of blood. I think, it’s the same thing.

So, the same power that’s within the head, Christ, is within the body of Christ. The same anointing that’s within the Head,

Christ, meaning, the Anointed One and His Anointing, that same anointing is within us, and Jesus, your Lord and Savior said, "The works that I do shall you do also, and greater works than these shall you do because I go unto My Father."

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Mark Stroud: We just got to dare to believe it, and walk in it and not allow ourselves to be intimidated by the tricks, the schemes, and strategies of the enemy. Now, there was a danger real? Absolutely, but Our God is even more real! He is bigger, He is better, He is stronger, He is wiser, He is the ever living, everlasting God. And we love you Jesus, all powers in His hand. And you cannot fail if you are a child of God. All you have to do is choose to believe. Well, I thank you again. Thank you for joining us for brothers of the word, because brother, you need the Word. God bless you. Amen. Halleluiah. Amen.

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