

Have you had Jesus pass by you in that way?

Until that has happened to you, you will always live in fear of losing something else.

And this is our Lord's question to us: "Who is this?"

Who sends the storms into our lives? Who tests us?

Who makes provision for our needs and then tests us on it?

Who gives us a promise and then sends us out to see if we believe what we teach or what we say?

We all need desperately the I am to pass by us in the storm

50 ...Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage!

Well when you read the parallel passage in Matthew of this account he adds the part where Peter gets out of the boat and attempts to walk to Jesus on the water.

He sinks and cries out to Jesus to save him and he does.

Jesus in the garden that night, also cried out to his Father, save me from this impending storm Dad.

And instead of reaching down and being pulled up he was pushed fully into the storm that was the wrath of God against human sin and wickedness and drowns him.



The story of the King... who came to serve.

Part 19:

A Love Worth Fearing
Mark Chapter 6 verses 45-56

How many of the storms of our life are made up of these two elements -- *trouble which comes to us and seems to be overwhelming us, and the seeming absence of the Lord?*

Jesus Challenges Us In Three Ways.

I. Jesus challenges our View of Ultimate Reality

Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. Vs. 48

So if our ultimate reality is only what we can see, taste, touch, and smell or otherwise catalogue within the realm of some physical evidence, we might as well just resign ourselves to the banality of life and accept whatever comes our way.

But we know differently don't we?

We have a loved one seriously sick, what do we expect, **we want Jesus to come walking on the water to us to heal them don't we?** It's part of our hopeful expectation of faith.

II. Jesus challenges the basis of our true loyalty.

He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, 49 but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, 50 because they all saw him and were terrified. Vss. 48-50

The real danger the disciples were in wasn't ...is it a ghost? It wasn't physical, and it wasn't the storm. The real danger was the disciples were in was spiritual.

For they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened. Vs. 52

The ultimate poster child in scripture for hard heartedness is of course **Pharaoh** during the bondage of Israel and Moses day.

Jesus is saying to these disciples, you think your intimacy and your loyalty to me make you an insider, but you are no different then Pharaoh.

So the implication is that maybe the best thing that could happen to us is to have Jesus send us into the storm.

Why?

Because it's in the storm where we begin to find out what we're really made of.

III. Jesus challenges us to a different kind of fear.

48 He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about **to pass by them**,

50 because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! **It is I. Don't be afraid.**" Vss. 48,50

In *Exodus 3* God comes to Moses in a burning bush, and tells him he wants him to go to Egypt to rescue his people.

Moses says who shall I say is calling? God says, "**I am that I am. Tell them I am has sent you.**"

Which is the identical name Jesus uses of himself here when he says **It is I**. It is I am, don't be afraid.

In Chapter 33 of Exodus Moses is out in the wilderness, with the people, they've rebelled more than once, and Moses is saying to God I don't want to go one more inch into this storm unless I know for certain you are with me.

And what does God say? Get into the cleft in that rock and I will what? **Pass by** and show you my glory, show you my power and goodness.

Now what does God want?

Mark is telling us that what we need... the cure for our heart ...is Jesus. To see him pass by we need to fear and worship Jesus.

Jesus is saying you're afraid of the storm? Maybe you ought to be afraid of the One who the storm is afraid of.