

WHAT KIND OF A MAN IS THIS?

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Mark 4:35-41

1. Mark records that this incident took place after Jesus had finished sharing the Kingdom Parables we have been studying.
2. One of the questions Jesus had asked His disciples was, "Have you understood all these things?" (The truths taught in the Kingdom Parables)
3. They responded, "Yes," but little did they know that school was not over for the day.
4. Jesus had already demonstrated that He could change water into wine, raise the dead, heal the sick, miraculously feed people, and cast out demons.
5. The disciples had seen some pretty amazing things, but this incident greatly impacted them in ways other events had not.
5. Here we have a wonderful picture of Jesus' humanity and divinity which raises some questions we need to consider.
6. We will try to answer the question that the disciples asked as recorded in Matthew 8:27, "What kind of a man is this (Who is this), that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"

I. What kind of a man is this who would knowingly send people He loved into a storm?

- A. Some of us may have asked the same question from time to time.
- B. I would simply remind you that our comfort is not God's chief concern; rather His chief concern is our conformity to the image of Christ.

1. Romans 8:28-30

And we know that God causes all things to work together for **good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; 30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

2. Hebrews 12:6, 8, 10

"For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives...But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons...He disciplines us for our **good**, so that we may share His holiness."

II. What kind of a man is this who could sleep in the midst of a storm?

- A. The Scriptures make it clear that this was not just a typical storm.
 1. And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. Mark 4:37
 2. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being covered with the waves; but Jesus Himself was asleep. Matthew 8:24
 3. But as they were sailing along He fell asleep; and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to be swamped and to be in danger. Luke 8:23
- B. Jesus had just completed a long and exhausting day, and He was tired.
- C. He found a place in the stern of the boat, along with a cushion, and fell asleep.

D. Jesus could sleep because He knew that while He, in His humanity needed sleep, His Heavenly Father did not. Isaiah 40:28

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired.

E. David understood this truth, and because he did he was able to sleep even when under great stress or danger.

1. Psalm 3:3-6

3 But You, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the One who lifts my head.

4 I was crying to the Lord with my voice, and He answered me from His holy mountain.

Selah. 5 **I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustains me.** 6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about.

2. Psalm 4:6-8

Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Lift up the light of Your countenance upon us, O Lord! 7 You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their grain and new wine abound. 8 **In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for You alone, O Lord, make me to dwell in safety.**

F. Notice what Peter was doing the night before Herod planned to have him executed in order to please the Jews.

On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, **Peter was sleeping** between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly." And his chains fell off his hands. 8 And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Acts 12:6-8

NOTE: This is the same man who, prior to the Cross, denied the Lord three time out of fear for his life.

III. What kind of a man is this that could sleep through a storm but be instantly awakened by His disciples' cries of distress?

A. God always hears the cries of His children.

B. The God-Man, though able to sleep through the storm, immediately responded to the desperate cries of His disciples.

C. They could not understand how He could sleep when it appeared that all was lost.

NOTE: We should not allow others to make us fearful just because they are afraid.

IV. What kind of a man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?

A. The Creation responded to its Creator.

NOTE: Paul was writing about Jesus when He wrote, "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created through Him and for Him. 17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:15-18

B. In Luke 8:24 we read, "They came to Jesus and woke Him up, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And He got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they (immediately) stopped, and it became calm.

NOTE: There is nothing that we will face in life that God can't deal with or enable us to deal with it.

APPLICATION

1. After stilling the storm Jesus asked His disciples, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

NOTE: I like how the earlier edition of the NASB reads here, And He said to them, "Why are you so timid? How is it that you have no faith?"

2. God wants us to come to the place where we trust Him explicitly in every situation.

2 Corinthians 1:8-11

For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life; 9 indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves **in order that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;** 10 who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us, 11 you also joining in helping us through your prayers, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed upon us through the prayers of many.

3. As followers of the Lord Jesus Christ we can know peace whether life is calm or stormy.

4. That will be a reality if He who rules the winds and the waves also rules over our lives.