

THE WIND CEASED

MATTHEW 6

Text:

Introduction:

The disciples had just finished participating in one of the Bible's greatest stories. The feeding of the 5000. But notice their attitude prior to feeding these folks. They wanted to send them away. (Matt. 14:15)

All too often that is our attitude today. Send them away. But Jesus feeds everyone, and when everyone was full each disciple took up a basket of food.

That brings us to our text. The Bible says that Jesus constrained his disciples to get on a ship. And while the ship was at sea some things began to happen. Let me say, Obedience does not guarantee no storms. Attitude of obedience has a lot to do with the severity of the storm.

Notice with me:

1. THE CONSTRAINED DISCIPLES

A. Jesus sent them away.

B. The word constrained has as its meaning necessity.

2. CONTRARY WINDS

A. Often times we can be doing that which the Lord would have us to do, and still a storm crops up.

B. Jesus knew all the time that the storm was coming.

C. The disciples tried to get themselves out of the storm instead of asking for the Lord's help.

(Mark 6:48 KJV) "And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them."

D. When the storms arise remember that Jesus is always near.

(Mark 6:47 KJV) "And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land."

E. Often times when the Lord is near we don't recognize Him.

(Mark 6:49-50 KJV) "But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: {50} For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid."

3. CRY OF FEAR

A. Storms bring us to the point of dependence on God.

4. CATCHING SAVIOR

(Mat 14:31 KJV) "And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

5. CEASED WINDS

A. This was what it took to work in the disciple's heart.

(Mark 6:51-52 KJV) "And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. {52} For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened."