



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

Luke 8:22-25 ESV

Jesus Calms a Storm

²² One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, ²³ and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. ²⁴ And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵ He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"

1. The Calm before the Storm.

²² One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, ²³ and as they sailed he fell asleep.

Background:

Jesus has been working non-stop: healing, casting out demons, arguing with Pharisees, and teaching both the disciples and masses. It is after all of this activity that He teaches them that after all that work it is **still not up to Him** or to His workers, but it is **up to the Spirit** to produce fruit in fertile soil. So, Jesus gets the boys and some of the other disciples according to Mark 4:36 (multiple boats) and they take a cruise across the lake and Jesus picks this beautiful day on the water for a long overdue NAP!

Sea of Galilee

The Sea of Galilee today is known as Lake Chinnereth 13 miles long by 7 wide at its' longest points. It is the biggest body of Fresh Water below sea level at 682 ft





The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

down. On the North and West side of the Lake you would find the Hills of Galilee 1'500' above sea level. On the East side you find a plateau that is sixteen miles wide and runs 42 miles down all the way into the land of Israel but they start above the lake at 3,000'. Lastly, the North Side of the lake are the mountains of Southern Lebanon that rise 10,000'. The whole place is geothermal so you can find hot springs in the north and west. This helps with the algae production which helps with the fish population and the both of that together help with the water purity to give Israel 50% of all its' drinking water. As well its' placement between the mountains means that there is continual snow melt which feeds the water source continually. It is as if someone took their thumb and pushed down on this ground exactly right to produce a source of abundance to make a land feel like it was flowing with "Milk and Honey".

But because of its' unique structure it also has another nasty reputation. It has unusual winds that can come from nowhere in the blink of an eye and if you are caught in open water it can be disastrous.

23 And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger.

All of the high elevations above the water essentially channel winds through the ravines and valleys that build up steam and explode across the face of the waters with no warning and no clouds in sight. This lake is the **Bermuda Triangle of Fresh Water Lakes** and the disciples found themselves out of the blue with waves and wind that caused them to panic.

Life is like that isn't it? Many of us thought that following Jesus, being in His presence brings about a calm that means you are protected from such unpredictable tragedies. This story though shows a very harsh reality, following Jesus doesn't keep you from the storms in life, it takes you right through them! The disciples, the fishermen, knew it was winter and they knew the risks but something about Jesus authority, when you start to know Him, will get you to take chances that you normally don't take. Family, is there something in your life that you have neglected because you are afraid of the consequences? As you will see in our story today, without getting in the boat with Jesus victory in life can never be achieved for **victory over our storms only come through Jesus.**

2. The Calm during the Storm.



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

²⁴ And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and **there was a calm.**

It's a surreal experience finding calm in the middle of a storm.

As a Floridian native I have had the great pleasure of going through several Hurricanes, and I mean literally through the middle of it for I have experienced the *Eye of the Storm*. The scariest experience out of all of them was August 24, 1992 - Andrew. It was night time... It was right around midnight when everything went still and quiet and we prayed. We realized God had kept us safe so far, but we knew the worse was still to come.

The power of the Storm is what makes us run to Jesus.

It is in the Eye of the Storm that we find Jesus resting in our story. **"Master, Master, we are perishing!"** Jesus had rescued all these people out there on multiple ships He had saved them from destructive walks of life, demons, disease, and devilish Pharisees but nobody had ever been saved by what was considered the hand of God. For some reason no one thought Jesus could help them!?! (There words were not about "help us!" but were more about complaining?)

You see I think the problem these folks were having is the same problem we have when things catch us unaware. **The Jesus that rescued us from whatever we were running from, we believe is not the same Jesus that can save us now. We can call this TYPECASTING...**

- Sure he saved me when I was messing up as a kid but I have adults problems now.
- Sure He saved me when I ran to Him for forgiveness over promiscuity or foolish youthful living but I am older now, I should have known better.
- Sure He came through when I needed a healing but Jesus doesn't care about my emotional hang-ups.

We all have these natural **blockades** in our heads: either we **don't think that our storms are Jesus' to attend to** or we don't want Him to because **we are not done with trying to save ourselves! It's like in the story of Jonah, or with Paul, we have thrown everything overboard and nothing helps!** Have you type casted Jesus in your mind, are you boxing Him in to keep Him from taking control on your life?



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

You'll know the day that block begins to come down in your heart with Him. You will find yourself in your own eye of the storm and you will realize that **your actions got you there**, not God. But you have finally realized only God can get you out and there's more to go. Have you run to Him lately desperate for help or are you still running to Him complaining about your life?

3. The Calm after the Storm.

.²⁵ He said to them, **"Where is your faith?"** And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, **"Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"**

Luke has been highlighting this question all through the narrative - *tis* (tē's); "Who is this or what kind of man is this?"

- 4:36 Who is this that casts out Demons?
- 7:39 Who is this that let's sinners touch Him?
- 5:21/7:49 Who is this that heals and forgives sin?
- Jesus is the Lord over Demons, Disease, and Death.
- 8:25 Who is this that sucks the energy out of nature itself? The Messiah is not just a King but He's the Lord of all Creation! (If you want that 4th D you can say Natural Disasters)

Calm after the storm comes through the realization that: (Why they were AFRAID)

1st - Jesus is bigger than the storm.

Freud believed that one of the reasons that man clung to the belief of God still, was to help him deal with the harsh reality of nature and its' consequences. That is in his research due to the lack of control over disasters caused by nature a natural coping mechanism would be to formulate the idea of God in your persona.

But the truth that the disciples discovered that day in their panic, when the waves were coming over the boat, when they were believing more in the rumors that this type of natural occurrence would lead to their destruction, was that there was something more to be feared than nature itself and they were looking at Him in the face!

⁹You rule the raging of the sea;
when its waves rise, you still them. - **Psalm 89:9**



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

He caused the storm to be still, So that the waves of the sea were hushed. - **Psalm 107:29**

"For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the LORD of hosts is His name). - **Is. 51:15**

So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west And His glory from the rising of the sun, For He will come like a rushing stream Which the wind of the LORD drives. - **Is. 59:19**

Jesus does only what God can do, **He enacts His will on it and it obeys!** My people, does this do nothing at all for you and whether you should obey God or not? Let us not be fools about this simple answer..

2nd - Jesus always had the power to control the storm.

The disciples learned that day a lesson that would only deepen over time. That the Spirit would forever connect them with this man, this Messiah, their friend, and their God and HE would always have the ability to deliver them out of a situation if He so determined.

They don't have to panic, they don't have to scream, they just have to get Jesus attention, go to him in humility, claim that they are afraid, and let Jesus decide what to do!

Family, do you still have a reason not to go to Him this morning? Do you really think there is something He can't handle? Do you think there is something that HE does not want to hear?

Here's the other fact about the storms of life they will sink you unless you go to Him. Family don't be like Jonah and jump in despair (don't give in to despair or sin), Like Jonah learned if God wants to save you, He will but he'll just throw you in the belly of something worse to get our attention.

3rd Jesus used the storm to grow their faith.

Jesus was the one that sent them out. Jesus chose to take a nap putting His life in His Father's hands. Jesus allowed that storm to come so that the disciples may learn to trust Him, even in the middle of it!



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

If He does this to them do you think it is any different for us? My family, your storms in your life are never surprises to God, they are never out of His control, He picked your boat, your course of action, and your destination so that when the storm comes Jesus planned to use it for your Good and for His glory.

Big Point for the Day!:

Storms are the necessary triggers that get you to take the next step in your walk of faith with Christ.

They get you to trust Him, they get you to broaden your view of Him, and they make you put more trust in Him than what you had yesterday. **Meaning, storms yes can be scary, but they are the pivotal times when you grow because He is going to do the work of Saving you before your eyes!** All of this so that you must end up with the same question? "What type of man is this?" **He is our GOD!**

Application:

Catch your "panic moments", write them down, and pray them to God.

Share your "panic moments" with another person and ask that person to pray for you and allow them to ask you about it.

Now let us all go corporately to our master not with a complaint but with pleading in our hearts to rescue us from our storms. Let us confess what we are scared of and be renewed by God's gift of faith that we will begin to see how Jesus is saving us.

PRAYER

COMMUNION



The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 37 "The Lord of Creation" By Pastor Jody May

BENEDICTION

Go in the name of the Father that sees the storm of life, He lets them come, and provides the Son to be our guide.

Go in the name of the Son that not only saves us in the ways we expect but is our savior for all of life.

Go in the name and power of the HS that shows up right when we need to build our faith so that it becomes a story we can share with others.