

Bible Verse Reading

Mark 4:35–41

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

The Basic Explanation of the Verses

What Happened

The Lord's authority is manifested in His ruling over the wind and the sea. This is not an ordinary authority—it is clearly something extraordinary. When the Lord and His disciples were in the boat, “a great storm arose in the sea, so that the boat was being covered by the waves”. The disciples were afraid that they might perish, so they woke Him, saying, “Lord, save us!” .

But He said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Verse 39 continues, “Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.”

While the Lord and His disciples were crossing the sea on their way to cast out demons, certain living beings in the air and in the sea rose up to trouble them. In the air were the fallen angels, and in the waters were demons. Thus, the Lord's rebuke was not directed at the wind or the sea as lifeless things, but at personal beings behind them. A rebuke is not given to inanimate objects, but to entities with personality. The King rebuked the wind and the sea because within the wind were Satan's fallen angels (Ephesians 6:12), and within the sea were demons (Matthew 8:32).

These fallen angels in the air and the demons in the waters worked together to hinder the King from reaching the other side,

knowing that He was going there to cast out demons. When the King commanded the fallen angels and the evil spirits to be still, they immediately obeyed, and there was a great calm. This “great calm” stands in contrast to the smallness of the disciples’ faith.

Verse 41 says, “And the men marveled, saying, What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?” In reality, it was not the wind and the sea that obeyed Him, but the fallen angels above the wind and the demons beneath the sea.

Thus, in this story, we see the manifestation of the King’s transcendent authority. Though He had no place to lay His head, no hole, and no nest, He possessed supreme authority over the natural environment. He is fully qualified to be the heavenly King of the heavenly kingdom. Apart from Him, there has never been a king on earth with such extraordinary authority.

Personal Spiritual Inspiration of Mark 4:35

The growth of a Christian's entire life is a process of constantly overcoming trials and drawing faith from hardships.

Mark 4:35 In the evening, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let us cross over to the other side."

In the Bible, the evening often signifies hardship, tribulation and difficult circumstances. When God allows hard situations to come into our lives, His will is for us to move forward and cross over to the other side, instead of staying where we are.

A Christian's entire life is a journey of constantly crossing over before God. If our spiritual state before God stagnates and ceases to advance, we fall short and fail. The journey of following the Lord is romantic and magnificent, because under His leading, we can keep crossing over to the other side again and again. (which signifies our continuous spiritual growth)

Throughout our life experiences, the Lord has led us through countless trials. We must personally experience His work, perfecting, upholding and sustaining us in every crossing, every trail (For every step of spiritual growth is accompanied by hardship and struggles). This shaping, perfecting and divine support is the most precious treasure in a Christian's life.

Questions

We all know the disciples panicked in the storm on the boat because of their lack of faith. But what is the reason behind why they did not have faith?

Answer from one perspective

We often read the story of the Lord Jesus calming the storm, and we always think the disciples panicked on the boat because they lacked faith. It is true that their fear came from insufficient faith. But if we think deeper: why did the disciples lack faith? The answer is that **they lacked a true knowledge of the Lord.**

- They did not know why they encountered a big wind storm on the sea as they crossed from one side to the other.
- Nor did they understand why Jesus was asleep amid the trial.
- Neither were they aware that Jesus is the only one who has the authority to possess the power to rebuke the storm (The power of Satan).

It was not until verse 41 that they finally realized the Lord is the One who can calm the winds and waves. Therefore, the reason they failed in this trial is their lack of knowledge concerning the Lord.

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Therefore, may the Lord have mercy on us. No matter what circumstances He arranges for us in daily life—whether joy or sorrow, smooth sailing or various trials—may He lead us to know

- **His will,**
- **His works,**
- **and His power**

in every situation.

For those who follow the Lord, we must understand God's desire and the longing of His heart. 【His will】

We need to know what His primary intends to do and accomplish among us. 【His works】

We also need to recognize how He uses His great power to govern all things, causing all things to work together for good to those who love Him. 【His power】

Only as we continuously grow in the knowledge of the Lord in these three aspects can we keep our faith steadfast in all circumstances.

Just as Paul's prayer to saunts in Ephesus: *For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you when I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you spiritual wisdom and revelation in your **growing knowledge of him,***

All in all, the real faith is from the grow knowledge of Christ.