

Date: May 31, 2026

Series: Mark: The Sovereign, Suffering Servant

Title: Faith and Fear in the Storm

Text: Mark 4:35-41



INTRODUCTION

Mark 4:35-36

Note: The disciples had GOOD REASON to believe and trust the words of Jesus!

“Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” (Mark 4:40)

I. FAITH AND FEAR IN THE STORM

Mark 4:37 -

1) It was NOT disobedience, but obedience to Jesus, that led them into this storm!

(John 16:33 and James 1:2-4)

“It is GOOD for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn Your statutes.” (Psalm 119:71)

“It is good FOR ME that I was afflicted, that I might learn Your statutes.” (Psalm 119:71)

“It is good for me that I was AFFLICTED, that I might learn Your statutes.” (Psalm 119:71)

“It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might LEARN Your statutes.” (Psalm 119:71)

“It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn YOUR STATUTES.” (Psalm 119:71)

Mark 4:38 -

2) Jesus’ ability to sleep came from both extreme physical exhaustion and perfect rest and peace in His Father’s will.

“They knew He possessed divine power, having seen Him perform miraculous healing for many others. Yet, when their own lives were at stake, the inadequacy of their faith was exposed.” (John MacArthur)

Note: One of the greatest threats to our faith is not a lack of knowledge, but the ungodly fear we allow to take root in our hearts and minds!

“Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in His servant Moses.” (Exodus 14:31)

“Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes, for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.” (Proverbs 3:25-26)

“When I am afraid, I put my trust in You. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?” (Psalm 56:3-4)

Mark 4:39-40 -

3) People who can command the wind and the waves have more credibility than people who cannot!

Psalm 107:21-31

Note: Jesus challenged His disciples to consider who/what they were really trusting in.

Mark 4:41 -

4) The disciples' fear of the storm has been powerfully replaced by the fear of God!

“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” (Mark 1:1)

Note: The disciples are beginning to see and recognize that Jesus is HOLY.

“When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid His right hand on me saying, ‘Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the Living One. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.’” (Revelation 1:17-18)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why does Jesus challenge the disciples on their lack of faith? What had they already heard, seen, and experienced that should have strengthened their faith/trust in Jesus?
2. What led the disciples into the storm? Obedience or disobedience? What does this teach us?
3. Have you experienced the reality of Psalm 119:71? How? When?
4. Why is ungodly fear such a danger and threat to our faith? What can ungodly fear do to us?
5. Why were the disciples more fearful after Jesus calmed the wind and the waves? What were they coming to see and understand about Jesus?