

Jesus Said
“Silence, Be Still”
1/14/18

-New series today called “Jesus Said” as we explore some of the red letter statements of Jesus while on this earth.

-The setting for what we are going to look at today that Jesus said takes place on the Sea of Galilee.

-The Sea of Galilee is a sparkling body of water in the northern part of Israel.
-Amy and I had the privilege of being there last November

-Image: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3f/Sea_of_Galilee_2008.JPG



-It is shaped like a harp, which is why it is called the Hebrew word for harp “*Kinnereth*.”

-It is not large.
-It's more like a lake than what we think of as a sea.

-It 13 miles long by 7 miles (at its longest and widest points)
-It is surrounded by hills, including the Golan Heights, and it serves as the chief source of revenue for fishermen and of pleasure for the people who live around its shores.

-Jesus spent a lot of His early ministry around this lake.

-There's a wonderful, well known story regarding Jesus and His disciples that takes place on this body of water that turns into a raging storm.

-**Mark 4:35-41** (NLT) As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, “Let’s cross to the other side of the lake.”

³⁶ So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed).

³⁷ But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water.

38 Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, “Teacher, don’t you care that we’re going to drown?”

39 When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Silence! Be still!” Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm.

40 Then he asked them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

41 The disciples were absolutely terrified. “Who is this man?” they asked each other. “Even the wind and waves obey him!”

-Text begins by saying that Jesus had a desire to go to the other side of the lake.
-This passage say that they were getting away from the crowds.

-The book of Luke says that they arrived on the other side of the lake in the region of the Garasenes.

-Across the lake from the region of the Garasenes is the region of Capernaum.

-Amy and I also had the privilege of walking in Capernaum,
-The home town or home base or headquarters of Jesus.

-Located on the north shore, this was also the home town of Peter.

-Image: http://wp.production.patheos.com/blogs/holyover/files/2012/02/IMG_5723-1024x682.jpg



-Image: <http://revjcn.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/01-Sea-of-Galilee-1024x687.jpg>



-Many of his miracles and much of his ministry took place here.
-He called many of his disciples from this area.

-Let's talk about the frightful event that happens as they push off from shore:

-Mark 4:37 (NLT) But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water.

We are dealing with a sudden storm on the Sea of Galilee which are fairly frequent.

-Remember that you are dealing with mountains, fault lines, hot air mixing with cold air.

-Recipe for some sudden, nasty weather with 10 to 15 foot waves.

-It happened to the town of Tiberias not too long ago causing considerable damage to the town.

-Several words that I want to point out to you as we go through this passage.

-What does the text say about this storm?

-It says it came upon them **soon** or **suddenly**.

-SUDDENLY

-No word, no warning, this storm crashed in upon them (including Jesus)

-Storms in this life are going to crash in upon you.

-All of you know what I mean.

-Maybe a small crisis

-Or a storm, like this one, with Hurricane force winds.

-They are going to come upon you suddenly and there's nothing you can do about it

-And nothing you did or didn't do to cause it.

-Matthew 5:44-45 (NLT) But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

⁴⁵ In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.

-John 16:33 (NIV) "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

-FEAR

-Mark 4:38 (NLT) Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?"

-Panicked mob of men literally felt like they were going to drown.

-Explore this:

-Seasoned fisherman who grew up on this lake and made a living off of this lake.

-These were experienced fishermen and they feared for their lives.

- Let's talk about this boat.
- This was not a yacht.

-Image: https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qmGVFeLwb3Y/UxUeWpvJEil/AAAAAAAAATwY/sdgfrhBF-p8XD7d4O7tLPPSnal8A_8BSQCKgB/s1600/02_Jesus_Appears_Galilee_1024.jpg



- If you're in a storm in this boat with 10 to 15 foot waves crashing around you, wouldn't you be afraid?
- Notice that they didn't start trying to figure out the situation in their own power.
 - They immediately cried out to Jesus.
- Storms do that, don't they? (At that moment, the only thing on your mind is that storm.
 - The disciples chose to go to Jesus (not act on their own).
 - Safest place we can go is to Jesus.

-SLEEPING

-Mark 4:38a (NLT) Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion.

-In the midst of their crisis, the One who could rescue them and stop the storm was asleep in the bottom of the boat.

- Did He not care?
- Did He not know what was going on?
- How could He not be aware of what is going on?

-Human side of Jesus: Jesus grew hungry, Jesus thirsted, and Jesus got exhausted.

- Exhausted enough to sleep through water crashing over the boat and men screaming for their lives.

- =====
- Notice Jesus' reaction compared to His disciples' reaction.
 - Jesus is sleeping peacefully.
 - He's not panicked. He's not screaming.
 - He's resting peacefully.

-You are going to think Jesus doesn't care, Jesus is not listening, Jesus is distant from you at that moment.

**In your storm, Jesus is at complete peace

-COMMAND

-Mark 4:39 (NLT) When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Silence! Be still!” Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm.

-Jesus said to the wind and the waves “Silence! Be still.”

-And they obeyed Him immediately.

-Do you know that the Jesus Who lived then and the Jesus Who lives now is the same Jesus that can do all things?

-REBUKE

-Mark 4:40 (NLT) Then he asked them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

-Yes, the storm was ferocious and the waves were crashing over the boat.

-But, WHO was in their boat?

-REVELATION

-Mark 4:41 (NLT) The disciples were absolutely terrified. “Who is this man?” they asked each other. “Even the wind and waves obey him!”

-They were terrified in the storm but they were more terrified when they realized WHO was in their boat?

-Who was in their boat?

-Genesis 1:1 (NLT) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth

-Psalm 33:6-9 (NLT) The Lord merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born.

⁷ He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs.

⁸ Let the whole world fear the Lord, and let everyone stand in awe of him.

⁹ For when he spoke, the world began! It appeared at his command.

-John 1:3 (NIV) Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

-In Exodus 3 Moses asks for God’s name: (I AM)

-Job 38:4 (ESV) “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

-Read the rest of that passage this week.

-Revelation 1:12-18 (NLT) When I turned to see who was speaking to me, I saw seven gold lampstands.

¹³ And standing in the middle of the lampstands was someone like the Son of Man. He was wearing a long robe with a gold sash across his chest.

¹⁴ His head and his hair were white like wool, as white as snow. And his eyes were like flames of fire.

¹⁵ His feet were like polished bronze refined in a furnace, and his voice thundered like mighty ocean waves.

¹⁶ He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth. And his face was like the sun in all its brilliance.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last.

¹⁸ I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave

-I could go on and on about how the Scripture speaks over and over about Jesus in this way.

-This is why He asks them, “*Why are you afraid?*” “*Do you still not believe?*”

-Had they seen Jesus in His all-powerful, glorified, state do you think they would have still been afraid?

A mother and her young daughter were at home alone. The father was gone on a trip for his company and night was coming on. Outside, it became increasingly dark and disturbing. The moon was out, but the wind howled menacingly in trees and the branches of some of those trees brushed ominously against the house. As old houses will in a fierce windstorm, the wood creaked and moaned as the house was nudged by the wind.

It was kind of scary, and the mother and daughter were both uneasy.

As the mother was putting her daughter to bed, the young girl looked out the window at the bright moon and asked her mother “Is the moon God’s night-light?”

The mother smiled and replied “Well, yes, you could say that”.

Her daughter thought about that for moment - then asked: “Does God turn out his light when he goes to sleep?”

“Oh, no honey, God never sleeps.”

“Oh,” said the child quietly. “Well then, if God’s going to stay up all night, there’s no sense both of us staying awake.” And with that, the little girl turned over in bed, pulled her blanket up to her neck and fell asleep.

Nothing is impossible for Him, Nothing is too hard for Him, Nothing can stop Him, and He says to YOU in the midst of your storm, “*Silence, Be Still. Remember Who is in your boat!*”

-If you are a Christ-follower, Jesus is in your boat (or rather, you are in His).

-He is not sleeping and He is never asleep.

-It’s okay to alert Him to your fears because He has the power, as Creator, to intervene saying, “Silence, Be Still” so that you can give Him praise saying, “You are the One Who controls the winds and the waves.”

-Bridge Group Questions:

1. What stood out to you about this week’s message?
2. Have you ever been in a life storm? Explain
3. Have you ever experience genuine fear? Explain.
4. Have you ever felt like Jesus was sleeping on the job in the midst of your storm?

5. How would your view of the storm have changed if you saw and understood Jesus in His glorified, all-powerful, God state? Why?