

SERMON NOTES - January 8, 2023
Mt.14.28-33 - "Peter's Journey to Jesus" #191

INTRODUCTION:

The pinnacle of this passage is the disciples' worship of Jesus as they confessed,
"_____ " (v.33).

✚ This was the first time the Twelve unequivocally declared their Master to be **God's Son**.
Five demonstrations/proofs, of Jesus' deity that led to the disciples' confession:

- ❖ Divine authority, Divine knowledge, Divine protection, Divine love, & Divine power.

REVIEW:

I. JESUS SEPARATED FROM THE DISCIPLES v.22

JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE DESTINIES OF ALL MEN, INCLUDING THEIR FINAL JUDGMENT

II. JESUS AND DISCIPLES REUNITED AT SEA v.25

OUR TRIALS ARE JESUS' PATH TO US; HE COMES TO US IN THE VERY DANGER THAT THREATENS US.

III. PETER'S JOURNEY TO JESUS v.28

WHEN BELIEVERS ARE IN THE PLACE OF OBEDIENCE THEY ARE IN THE PLACE OF SAFETY

(1) On the Water

Peter's request is **impetuous**.

Jesus never **reproved** Peter for daring to step from the boat.

- ❖ Rather, Jesus questioned Peter for **doubting** while in His presence (v.31).

The Bible never condemns believers for **risking** great things for God

WHEN BELIEVERS ARE IN THE PLACE OF OBEDIENCE, THEY ARE IN THE PLACE OF SAFETY

(2) Into the Waves

He keeps His **eyes** on us even when we take our eyes from Him.

Jesus did not take His eyes off Peter

(3) Calling for Help

He asks his question **before** He & Peter reenter the boat.

IT WAS SAFER TO BE WITH JESUS ON THE WATER THAN TO BE WITHOUT HIM IN THE BOAT.

IV. JESUS SAVES A MAN OF LITTLE FAITH v.31

...our faith is partial & immature, yet it is **real**.

- ❖ They have enough faith to **worship**, even if they do not understand **fully**.

It sounds negative, as if Peter has only a little faith. Perhaps, but his faith is **growing**.

The classic definition of faith says it has three elements:

- ✓ **knowledge**,
- ✓ **assent**, &
- ✓ **trust**.

For anyone to grow in discipleship:

1st - we need knowledge of the **content** of the faith: who Jesus is and why we need him

2nd - we must **agree** that the content is true: knowledge without assent will not help spiritually

3rd - we must trust in **Jesus**. even if he faltered, Peter did trust Jesus when he walked to Him

✚ We must do the same **daily**, to grow in Christ.

This is a story about the **mercy** & **power** of the Savior,

**AS WE TRUST GOD IN THE FAITH WE HAVE, WE DISCOVER LIMITATIONS;
BUT WE ALSO DISCOVER WHAT IT CAN YET BECOME.**

CONCLUSION:

- We are all **"little faiths"** at times. Jesus never **forsakes** us as we grow toward Him.