



Life of Christ Series
The Revelation of God
Mark 7:45-56

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In Robert Stein's book 'Jesus the Messiah: A Survey of the Life of Christ', he states that "A basic issue involved in the study of the life of Jesus is the problem of miracles. No one can investigate his life without first coming to grips with the issue of the miraculous. The Gospels contain more than thirty miracles associated with the life and ministry of Jesus. In Mark alone 209 of the 61 verses deal with the miraculous." Today, we look at some of those verses in our study. He goes on to say "Furthermore,

- **At the very heart of the Christian faith and message lies a MIRACLE – the resurrection of Jesus. To deny the miraculous is to deny historic Christianity."**

Our Christian faith hinges or is founded upon the life, death & resurrection of Christ. So, as we finish up Chapter 6, let us consider the reality of these events and the majesty of the Son of God, who did them. Let us see the full glory of **the Revelation of God** in the face of Christ.

READ, Mark 6:45-56

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ Immediately, Jesus tells his disciples to get in the boat and set sail without Him to Bethsaida. This was a town on the West side of the Sea of Galilee while Jesus was on the East side of the Sea of Galilee up on the steep slopes and found a good place to pray alone. Separated from their master, the disciples get caught in another storm. However, this is not a catastrophic storm like earlier, but the disciples did find themselves stuck in the middle of the lake, fighting against the wind after hours of strenuous rowing.

1. Jesus Can See Their STRUGGLE and Comes ALONGSIDE Them. (v 47-49)

One must assume supernaturally in the darkness, Jesus sees them and rejoins them in the middle of the night. Between 3-6 AM was considered the fourth watch since the Romans divided the night into four periods.

Then Jesus steadily walked unhindered by the waves. David E. Garland puts it as "*the wind posing no obstacle and the waves provide firm footing as he marches across the sea.*" Like **Habakkuk 3:15**, the image of God trampling the sea conveys his power to control the chaos of the seas to save his people Israel.

Ex: Scaring Tarah is the funniest things for me

Jesus is not here to scare His disciples, but He deliberately changed course and came parallel to the boat to see if they would recognize Him and His

supernatural powers and invite Him aboard. He saw their struggle and “He came to them”.

- “For whoever shall CALL upon the NAME of the Lord will be SAVED.” *Romans 10:13*
The more literal rendering, “desired to come alongside of,” indicates Jesus’ intention. **Do they know Him?**

- **Jesus wants to TEST the disciples’ FAITH.**

Keep in mind that God never tempts anyone, but He does test us of our dependency upon Him.

49 Do we recognize God’s rescue when it comes? The Greek term gives us the word “phantom,” used in the New Testament only here and in **Matthew 14:26**. Mark was the first gospel written and Matthew and Luke didn’t know each other but did know Mark and used his written account to help write theirs. It has the suggestion of superstitious imagery. The 12 did not at first believe the figure was actually Jesus in the midst of their fatigue and fear in the stormy conditions.

2. Jesus reveals His DIVINE identity and His REASSURING Hope. (v 50-52)

50 This command to “be of good cheer” always linked in the gospels to a situation of fear and apprehension, urged the disciples to have a continuing attitude of courage. “it is I” – The Greek phrase (literally means “I AM”) which clearly identified the figure as the Lord Jesus, not some phantom. “It is I” echoed the Old Testament self-revelation of God. **Exodus 3:14**

- **Out of FATIGUE and FRUSTRATION, the disciples could not grasp Jesus’ CHARACTER and POWER.**

51-52 The disciples were amazed of Jesus yet did not understand the real significance of that afternoon’s miracle which contains the same mystery concerning Jesus as the feeding of the 5,000. This scene answers the question of “*Even the wind and waves obey him?*”

The disciples’ minds were impenetrable, so that they could not perceive what Christ was saying...

- **Disciples were blind to the PRESENCE of God and His CARE for Men.**

- **The full glory of the REVELATION of God is found in the face of CHRIST.**

This Jesus is the image of the new Moses: leading the people to salvation & being a shepherd of the people. But He is also, and at the same time, the God who provided bread from heaven and brings us eternal life.

- **Your HEART is the worship center of your SELF.**

The heart is the casual core of your personhood. We cannot understand the transforming message of the Bible unless we understand this term.

Two things I want you to know:

Two things I want you to know: #1. In the middle of your struggle, God will come alongside you and bring a Rescuer. #2 When He does come, He is the Rescuer who cares for you and will bring you life. Question: **Will you recognize Jesus as God? As one who saves. Will you respond to Him with a hardness of heart or a contrite heart?**

**Let us give the Majestic Lord of all Lords our hearts today! So that we may truly see and understand what Jesus wanted His disciples to see and understand:
Christ is Lord**

PRAY.

*“Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷ And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸ And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, ⁵⁰ for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” ⁵¹ And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, ⁵² for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. ⁵³ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. ⁵⁴ And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him ⁵⁵ and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well. **Mark 6:45-56***

“You trampled the sea with your horses, the surging of mighty waters.”

Habakkuk 3:15

“And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.”

Matthew 14:26

*“God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” **Exodus 3:14***

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