JESUS CALMS ALL THE STORMS OF LIFE
MARK 4:35-41
By Dr. Gary G. Dull

INTRO: ARE YOU FACING A STORM IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW? If so, what is that storm? If you are facing a storm, do not think it is some strange thing, because EVERY PERSON’S LIFE IS FILLED WITH STORMS! If you are NOT facing a storm, don’t worry, one will come your way one of these days, because NO ONE IS EXEMPT FROM THE STORMS OF LIFE! The question we must face is not, “WILL A STORM HIT ME SOON?” But rather, “AM I READY TO HANDLE THE STORMS OF LIFE AS THEY COME MY WAY?” Here is another question to ask. In the past, when the storms of life hit you, HOW DID YOU HANDLE THEM? WERE YOU VICTORIOUS AND DID YOU GROW SPIRITUALLY, OR WERE YOU DEFEATED AND SLIP IN YOUR WALK WITH THE LORD? The storms of life are as sure as life itself. As Christians, WE HAVE ONE WHO WILL HELP US IN THOSE STORMS…HIS NAME IS JESUS CHRIST! HE IS HERE FOR EVERY STORM! Let’s study today how effective Jesus is in CALMING ALL THE STORMS OF OUR LIFE AS WE HAVE FAITH IN HIM AS THE OMNIPOTENT GOD!

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CONTEXT: Jesus had been speaking to the multitudes in PARABLES around the SEA OF GALILEE. A parable is a figure of speech in which a moral or spiritual truth is illustrated by an analogy drawn from everyday experiences. According to the record of scripture, about 1/3 of our Lord’s teaching was done in parables in order to make the truth more clear to those who wanted to learn, but also to make the truth more obscure to those who really did not mean business with Christ. In Mark 4, Jesus gave the parables of THE SOWER AND THE MUSTARD SEED. At the end of His day of teaching, He was tired and, along with His disciples, headed across the SEA OF GALILEE to rest. THAT IS WHEN THE STORM HIT!

STORMS ON THE SEA OF GALILEE: Storms were and are still common on the SEA OF GALILEE because of the deep valley’s producing great wind tunnel effects descending to the Sea which is about 700 feet below sea level. Storms can come upon the Sea without any notice.

THE GENERAL TEACHING OF THIS PARTICULAR EVENT:
1) It shows the needs and fears of all Christians.
2) It shows how the storms of life are uncertain and powerful.
3) It shows the presence of Christ in our life when storms occur.
4) It shows the care and the power of Christ for us when storms occur
5) It shows that sometimes it appears as if Christ is sleeping when storms hit.
6) It shows that when we call upon Christ, He hears and answers.
7) It shows that Jesus expects us to have faith in Him when the storms come.
I. THE QUESTION OF THE DISCIPLES VS. 38

“CAREST THOU NOT THAT WE PERISH?”

This is a cry of impulse that often springs from the heart of God’s children when faced with the untimely and surprising storms of life. YOU have asked that question and SO HAVE I!

A. It is a Question of Fear – Christians have the very same natural passions as any one else when faced with the storms of life. We fear because we do not know what is going to come our way next and we do not know how to handle whatever may lie ahead for us. SO WE CRY OUT IN FEAR!

B. It is a Question of Faith

1. It is a Demonstration of Faith – Had the disciples NO FAITH AT ALL, they would not have cried out in fear to Christ calling Him “MASTER.” So, when we cry out to the Lord in the storms of life, it shows we have a certain “small” level of faith at least. Those without any faith, don’t even think of calling upon Christ.

2. It is a Defect of Faith – Had the disciples GREAT FAITH, they would not have even given way to panic but would have had FULL CONFIDENCE in the Lord to take care of the matter.

OBSERVATIONS: The question the disciples asked reveals several things.
1) Their lack of the KNOWLEDGE of Christ. He knows there are storms, even when sleeping.
2) Their lack of the CARE of Christ. He cares no matter what else He may be doing.
3) Their lack of the REALITY of Christ. He is the GOD OF ALL NATURE and can control all things.

SOMETIMES WHEN WE FACE THE STORMS OF LIFE, WE FAIL TO REALIZE THAT JESUS KNOWS ABOUT US, CARES ABOUT US AND WILL TAKE CARE OF THE MATTER IN HIS PERFECT WAY! LOOK WHAT HE DID IN VERSE 39

II. THE QUESTION OF THE LORD VS. 40

“How is it that ye have no faith?”

Jesus had every right to ask this question. How often had they experienced His power? He had NEVER forgotten or forsaken them! But WE are the same!

A. It is a Question of NO FAITH when there is such a great OBJECT OF FAITH…IT IS JESUS CHRIST, THE GOD AND CREATOR OF ALL THINGS!

B. It is a Question of NO FAITH when in human life there is such a need of GREAT FAITH…ONLY FAITH IN CHRIST SEES US THROUGH!

C. It is a Question of NO FAITH when there are so many examples of Christ working in the past…IN THE O.T. AND OUR OWN LIVES, CHRIST HAS WORKED OVER AND OVER AGAIN!

D. It is a Question of NO FAITH when the absence of faith leaves the heart DESOLATE AND HELPLESS…JESUS ALWAYS SATISFIES.

E. It is a Question of NO FAITH when there is such encouragement from Christ to TRUST HIM IN FULL FAITH… Jesus said, “COME UNTO ME AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.”

ILLUSTRATION:
APPLICATIONS:
1) Let the unbelieving repent of having no faith in Christ and call unto Him for salvation and strength.
2) Let the doubting Christian be encouraged to put away all fears and pray, “LORD, INCREASE MY FAITH.”
3) Let the growing Christian remember that Christ will ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF HIS