



A just weight  
and balance

are the  
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- The Feeding of the **5,000** **sets the background** for today's sermon.
- There are **several miracles** in our lesson for today:

- **# 1** The miracle of Jesus walking on the water,
- **# 2** The miracle of Peter walking on the water,
- **# 3** The miracle of Jesus calming the storm,
- **# 4** The miracle of the boat being instantly  
on the other shore.

- The story is intriguing because it describes **the timeless human situation.**
- We are forever being caught **in unanticipated storms,**
  - Threatened when **we least expect it.**

- Finding ourselves in the midst of death and danger, and always in need of a Savior.
- Our fondest hope is that Jesus will do for us what he did for Peter, grip us and hold us firmly when the flood waters encircle us.

- After the feeding of the multitude

**Jesus sent his disciples away.**

- Matthew says that he **compelled** them to embark on the boat and go on ahead.

- At first sight the word **compelled** sounds strange.

- John tells us that after the feeding of the multitude, the crowd wished to come and to make him a king by force (John 6:15).

- It was a dangerous situation, and the disciples might well have complicated it, for they, too, were still thinking of Jesus in terms of earthly power.

- When he was alone,  
he went up into  
**a mountain to pray;**  
and by this time  
the night had come.
  - The disciples  
had set out back  
**across the lake.**

- One of the sudden storms, for which the lake was notorious, had come upon them, and they were struggling against the winds and the waves, and making little progress.

- As the night wore on, **Jesus began to walk** round the head of the lake to reach the other side.
  - In the hour of **the disciples' need** Jesus came to them.

- When the wind was contrary and life was a struggle, Jesus was there to help.

- No sooner had a need arisen, than Jesus was there to help and to save.

- In life the wind is often contrary.
- There are times when we are up against it and life is a desperate struggle with ourselves, with our circumstances, with our temptations, with our sorrows, with our decisions.

- At such a time  
no one needs to  
struggle alone,
- For Jesus is there  
in the storms of life.
- His hands outstretched  
bidding us to take heart  
and have no fear.

- **Sören Kierkegaard**,  
the Danish theologian,  
once warned  
his contemporaries  
**about letting Jesus Christ**  
**get too close to them:**

- If you give him a finger,  
he'll take your hand;
- give him your hand  
and he'll take your arm;
- give him your arm,  
and he'll take your whole life  
and transform it...

- In our story we find the disciples **in the middle of a storm.**
  - Matthew states that they were in the **“middle of the sea.”**  
(About 3-3.5 miles from shore).
    - (**Matthew 14:24**)
    - Life has a way of putting us **in the middle.**

- Everything was against them
- The Scripture says, The wind was contrary.
- Often it seems that everything is going against us.
- The winds of life blow against us.

- It was the **Darkest of hours.**
- The disciples **did not know** which way to go.
- The "**4th watch**" was the last watch of the night.
- It was **dark** and **dangerous.**

- The disciples had a **3-D** problem:

- **# 1 Distance**  
from the shore,

- **# 2 Direction**  
of the wind,

- **# 3 Darkness**  
of the night.

- Matthew's account provides numerous lessons:
- **# 1 God's Provision in the Storm**  
(**Matthew 14:22-27**)

- Matthew's account
- provides numerous lessons:
  - **# 2 God is never surprised by our storms**  
**(Matthew 14:22-23)**

- Matthew's account provides numerous lessons:

- **# 3 In the storms of life Christ is revealed to us.**  
**(Matthew 14:26-27)**

- Verse 27  
literally says,  
"take courage, I am.  
Don't be afraid."
- Jesus used the name of God,  
the name "I am."
  - This is the name for  
the great self existent God,  
it is a very holy name!
    - This name is  
a declaration of Deity

- **It is I;**  
**be not afraid.**
- Nothing but this voice of Christ could, in such circumstances, have given  
**courage**  
and  
**comfort**  
to his disciples.

- Jesus was saying, **“I am in charge here.”**
- We need to see him as the Christ **in the midst of our storm** who is in charge.
  - This name is **a proclamation** of His presence.

- Not I was,  
not I am going to be,  
but I am.
- He is just as real,  
just as near,  
just as dear,  
just as precious,  
and just as present today  
as He was then.
- He is with you right now,  
He is the eternal  
"I am."

- This name is an announcement of abundance

- "I am" is an unfinished sentence.

- Jesus says, "I am" and we can fill in the blank.

- He is all we need.

- Paul understood this truth when he wrote in
  - Philippians 4:19  
**And my God shall supply  
all your need  
according to His riches  
in glory by Christ Jesus.**

- Despite centuries of attacks,
- Attempts to write him off as a fraud
- Or the figment of the imagination of the Early Church,
  - Jesus Christ continues to reach out and grab hands, arms, and hearts.

- More than two thousand years after his birth, Jesus Christ remains the most significant force in our world.

- For the disciples  
in our lesson  
**it had been a remarkable day.**
- The disciples had  
**witnessed a miracle.**
- Thousands of famished people  
were fed with  
**a few loaves and fishes.**
- The disciples were excited  
as they gathered up  
**twelve baskets of excess food.**

- But suddenly everything changed.
- Life has a way of doing that.
- One moment great joy.
- The next utter terror.

- The disciples **cried out in fear.**

- They were now drowning in a sea of **doubt** and **fear.**

- **Suddenly**

Jesus appeared  
in a supernatural way,  
walking on the water.

- From that moment  
**everything changed.**

- We may feel alone.
- We may be confused.
  - We may sense that we are in deep water and the waves are encircling us.

- But we have Our Lord's promise that we shall never be abandoned.

- The Christ of faith reaches out to us, as He did for Peter, in our uncertainty to uphold us with his victorious right hand.

- **We may wish**  
it were not so,  
but through the years  
I have learned  
that we experience  
the greatest sense  
of God's presence  
**in the challenging,**  
**threatening moments**  
**in our lives.**

- In times of great fear and uncertainty.
- The time of death.
- The night before surgery.
- A life-altering crisis.

- These are the moments that cut through the insignificant and help us to clarify what is truly important.
  - It is at this time that most people are more open to prayer than at any other time.

- The disciples seem pathetic as the storm arises on the Galilean Sea.
- They do come off, as Jesus observes, as a people of little faith.
  - Most of us are not very different from the disciples.

- For the most part,  
we live steady,  
**predictable lives.**
- We are good citizens  
and neighbors.
- But if we are not careful  
we can assume  
**that the good life**  
**is our accomplishment**  
and we do not  
really need God.

- What do we learn

from our friends  
in this  
raging storm?

- **We learn that we must:**

- **Look to Jesus**

when the storm is upon us.

(**Matthew 14:26**)

- Like the disciples they saw that **what threatened to be over their head** was already **under** His feet!

- **Ephesians 1:22**

**And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,**

- **We learn that:**
- We must spend time with God in **prayer** and **reading** His word **until we see what they saw**
  - We must **listen to Jesus** while the storm rages.  
(**Matthew 14:27-29**)

• **We learn that:**

• Jesus will

**comfort us.**

(**Matthew 14:27**)

- **We learn that:**
  - Jesus will **challenge us.**  
(**Matthew 14:28-29**)

- **We learn that:**
- We must **obey** Jesus **in spite of the storm.**  
(**Matthew 14:29**)
- When Peter walked on the water, **he was really walking**  
**on the Word.**
- He believed God **and acted on it.**

- **We learn that:**
- The word of God,  
**is to be believed.**
  - We like the  
**safety of the boat.**
    - So we  
**sit** and **watch**  
the Lord pass us by.

- **We learn that:**
  - We must walk with Jesus **throughout the storm.**  
(**Matthew 14:30**)
  - Simon Peter **did not drown**  
and  
neither will you.

- **We learn that:**
- Simon may not have walked very far **but he walked further** than the rest of the disciples.
- It is **safer** to be on the waves with Jesus than **in** the boat without Him!

- **We learn that:**

- Simon faltered because **he looked at his circumstance** and not his savior.

- We are commanded to keep our **eyes of faith** **firmly fixed on Jesus.**

- **We learn:**
- Jesus will **not** let you drown.

- **Colossians 2:6**

**As you have therefore  
received Christ Jesus  
the Lord,  
so walk in Him,**

• We learn that:

• We must worship Jesus  
after the storm  
(Matthew 14:31-33)

- Why did Jesus  
walk on the water?
- So the disciples would know  
He was sufficient  
for their needs.
  - It brought the reality that:  
"truly you are the Son of God."  
(Matthew 14:33)

- **We learn that:**
- Not only is Jesus necessary,  
**He is enough!**
- Whoever you are,  
**He is enough.**
- **Colossians 2:10**  
”**And you are**  
**complete** **in Him**”

- To the artist

He is altogether lovely.

- To the architect

He is the chief cornerstone.

- To the banker

He is the hidden treasure.

- To the baker

He is the living bread.

- To the **biologist**

He is the life.

- To the **builder**

He is the sure foundation.

- To the **doctor**

He is the great physician.

- To the **educator**

He is the great teacher.

- To the **farmer**  
He is the Lord of the harvest.
- To the **florist**  
He is the Rose of Sharon.
- To the **geologist**  
He is the rock of ages.
- To the **jurist**  
He is the righteous judge.
- To the **jeweler**  
He is the pearl of great price.

- To the lawyer

He is my advocate.

- To the publisher

He is the good tidings of great joy.

- To the philosopher

He is the wisdom of God.

- To the preacher

He is the word of God.

- To the **sculptor**

He is the living stone.

- To the **statesman**

He is the desire of all nations.

- To the **theologian**

He is the author and finisher  
of our faith.

- To the **traveler**

He is the new and living way.

- To the sinner  
He is the Lamb of God  
that takes away  
the sin of the world.

- To the saint  
He is the  
son of the living God.

- He is the  
Great I am!

- **Matthew 14:27**

**Jesus spoke to them,**

**saying,**

**Be comforted!**

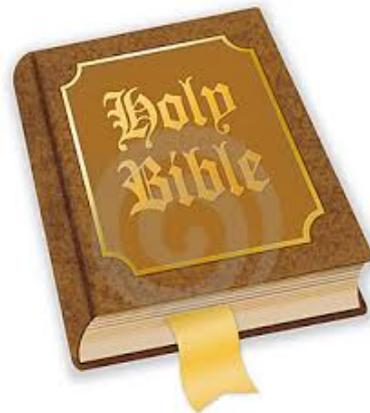
**I AM!**

**Do not fear.**

**The doors of the church  
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride  
Say  
“Come”.**

**Revelation 22:17**



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