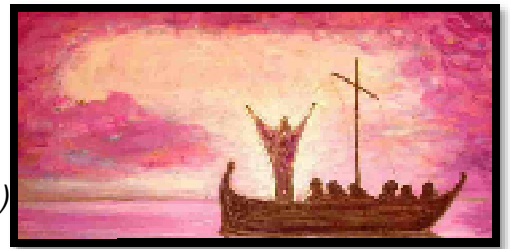


The Storm Before the Calm

FIVE WAYS JESUS CAN HELP US GET THROUGH THE STORM

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Introduction: As Christians we have to accept the reality that none of us are exempt from storms. However, we can weather the storm if Jesus is in our boat! Jesus warns us to prepare (**John 16:33**), Paul warns us to prepare (**Acts 14:22, II Corinthians 11:24-25, II Timothy 3:12**), Peter warns us to prepare (**I Peter 4:12**), and James warns us to prepare (**James 1:2**). We have no excuse for finding ourselves unprepared! We may not be able to change when the storm comes, how long it will last, or how devastating it will be, but we CAN change our perspective! If we find ourselves in the midst of storms, whether literal or figurative, we don't have to get discouraged. We have to experience the storm before the calm. That way we can appreciate the peace and calm after the storms have passed. I want to share with you five ways that Jesus can help you get through the storm.....

Discussion:

I. The Miracles of Jesus

Matthew 6:47-52, Mark 4:36-41, Mark 6: 47-52, Luke 8:22-25, John 6:16-21

II. The Faith of Jesus

Matthew 6:9, John 3:16, Mark 4:38-40, Psalm 46

III. The Teachings of Jesus

**Matthew 7:24-27, Matthew 6:5-8, Matthew 6:19-21, Matthew 6:31-34,
Matthew 7:7**

IV. The Prayers of Jesus

Luke 11:1-4, John 17, Hebrews 4:14-16, Hebrews 7:25, Philippians 4:6-7

V. The Sacrifice of Jesus

**Matthew 27:27-50, I Thessalonians 4:13-18, II Peter 3:7-12, II Corinthians 5:10
Romans 5:6-10, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:38, Revelation 20:11-15**

Conclusion: Jesus stands ready to save you and protect you from the eternal storm to come. To some He will say, "*Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world!*" (**Matthew 25:34**) For those who did not prepare, the Lord will say, "*Depart from Me...*" (**Matthew 25:41**) "*I NEVER KNEW YOU!*" (**Matthew 7:23**). Are you ready for the Lord to declare "*Peace, be still*" in your life? Have you prepared for the storm? Are you ready for the calm?

WORD OF THE DAY = "STORM"