

POWER OVER DISASTER

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—January 1, 2023

Mark 4:35-41

(ESV)

[35] On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." [36] And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. [37] And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. [38] But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" [39] And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. [40] He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" [41] And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

INTRODUCTION

Who is Jesus?

The way you answer the question of Jesus' identity in your heart will ultimately determine whether or not you will be safe in him for eternal life.

REVIEW

For Mark Jesus is the Son of God.

We are children of God by adoption, but Jesus is the Son of God by nature.

- **Mark 1:1**—*The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*
- **Mark 1:11**—*And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."*
- **Mark 3:11**—*And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."*

JESUS, LIKE US, IS A MAN

Parables are depictions of the Kingdom of God.

Mark 1:15—*"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."*

The gospel is the transformative message of Jesus and his life; the Kingdom is made up by those who submit their lives to Jesus and his gospel.

- Outsiders: Scribes, Pharisees, the religious order, Jesus' earthly family
- Insiders: sinners, tax collectors, the religious ostracized, simple fishermen.

Jesus' need for rest is both a reminder for us of his humanity and for our own need for rest.

Rest is a gift from God—it reminds us of his wisdom and our need.

Psalm 127:2

*It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives to his beloved sleep.*

Psalm 4:8

*In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*

Jesus is able to rest because he trusted the Father, while his disciples did not.

When we are plagued with fear the only right response is for us to take our fears to Jesus.

Psalm 55:22—*Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.*

JESUS, UNLIKE US, IS GOD

Hypostatic union = the perfect union between Jesus' human nature and his divine nature.

Genesis 1:2–3—*The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. [3] And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.*

Hebrews 1:3—*He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.*

The disciples thought their safety depended on their ability to distance themselves from the storm, but in actuality their safety depended simply on their nearness to Christ, regardless of the storm.

Matthew 16:18—*...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*