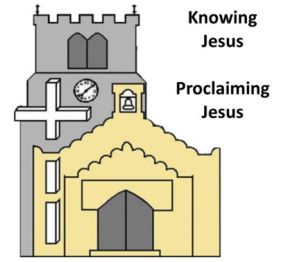


24th May 2020

Readings: Mark Ch 4 V35 - 41 (See Page 4)

From John Mc Millan



## Jesus Calms the Storm

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, may your word this morning be a lamp for our feet and a light for our path.

Some years ago, Sheila and I went on holiday to the Orkney, which is north of John O' Groats. The holiday was great and our final day came.

We made our way to the ferry, where we got all our documents and receipts. Once on board we found a good place to sit with good views and settled down.

We left by way of Scapa Flow, all was calm until we reached the open sea. The sea was rough, with growing mountainous seas. I am not a good sailor and began to feel odd. After a while we heard the tanoy, 'would the McMillan family come to the Pursers Office', we ignored the request because WE had all our documents.

We continued our journey, amid rocking motions and very high seas. The Pursers Office gave the message again, we started down the stairs to the Office, the rocking motion was horrible. We had our discussion and the Purser apologised. As we made our way back to our seat, everybody seemed to be looking at us, the waves were getting better, what a journey.

Our reading starts with a similar picture.

*Verse 37: A FURIOUS SQUALL CAME UP AND THE WAVES BROKE OVER THE BOAT, SO THAT IT WAS NEARLY SWAMPED.*

The sea of Galilee is in a basin surrounded by mountains and is susceptible to sudden violent storms. In this case they were different they were malevolent and evil. You can almost sense Satan wanting to destroy Jesus.

The sea came to symbolize for the people of that time including the disciples the dark powers of evil, and now these forces of evil are roused, angry and threatening.

What is Jesus doing, He is so confident of God's presence and power He falls asleep on a cushion.

The disciples were beside themselves with worry.

*Verse 38: JESUS WAS IN THE STERN SLEEPING ON A CUSHION. THE DISCIPLES WOKE HIM AND SAID TO HIM. TEACHER, DON'T YOU CARE IF WE DROWN.*

What about us, where would we be on the boat, at peace in God's presence and power or shouting for a bigger bucket.

*Verse 39: HE GOT UP, REBUKED THE WIND AND THE WAVES. QUIET BE STILL. THEN THE WIND DIED DOWN AND IT WAS COMPLETELY CALM.*

Imagine the scene....

Jesus gets up - No waiting, No fuss, No just a minute.

And rebukes the wind. *QUIET! BE STILL!*

The wind died down, it was completely still  
Jesus deals with our fears head on.

When we follow Jesus, wind and storms will come our way and fear can fill our lives and we feel as though we are drowning. The one who will deal with all these things is Jesus.  
It is Jesus who will quell the storms in our lives, if we let Him.

Jesus said to His disciples why are you so afraid, do you still have no faith.

The choice of faith is absolute. Either we trust him, or we are left at the mercy of the storm.

Where do you stand?

John Mc Millan

## Jesus Calms the Storm

**35** That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” **36** Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. **37** A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. **38** Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

**39** He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

**40** He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

**41** They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

NIV