

# Asleep in the storm

**Text: Mark 4:35-41**

## **Introduction:**

I have preached many times over the years on the subject of what to do in the storms of life. I love to encourage people in this area because, unfortunately, storms are just part of life here.

This passage in Mark 4 speaks about a storm, in Mark 6:45 we find the disciples in another storm. In Acts 27, we read about Paul going through a storm.

Jesus also taught us a parable about a storm that came against two houses, one founded on the sand, another founded on the rock.

Jesus taught that storms come to all of us and if we do what the Word says we will stand. So it is absolutely important to know what the Bible says on the subject and practice it.

I would like to start with the disciples' question in verse 38:

### **1. Do you not care that we are perishing?**

- Their question revealed not only desperation but disappointment: in a moment of danger where lives are at risk, Jesus...was asleep!

I have found people that have come close to being disappointed with Jesus.

-Does Jesus care?

-Does He know what I am going through?

- He cares:

### **Hebrews 4:15,16**

“For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace in time of need”

He knows what you're going through because He Himself went through the same and more.

### **2. Jesus asleep... on a pillow (verse 38)**

Jesus took a pillow into the storm!

Being God, Jesus obviously knew that the storm was going to come.

That was most likely a fishing boat, not a yacht. Jesus must have taken that pillow on purpose to have a good nap.

He took a pillow into the storm – not a life jacket, not a first aid kit, not a GPS... a pillow!

**That pillow was an illustrated sermon on how to deal with the storms of life! In only two chapters they were going to face another storm.**

**In the storm Jesus didn't take a pill ... He took a pillow!**

### **3. The disciples spoke 'disaster', Jesus spoke 'peace'**

- Both spoke of the abundance of their hearts. What are you saying in your storm?
- In the storms of life, more than at any other time, we need to keep our hearts filled with the right substance:
  - a) Jesus identified the substance of their hearts: fear.  
“Why are you so fear-full?”
  - b) Jesus also identified the substance that our hearts need to be filled with: faith!  
“How is it that you have no faith?”
- Peace is not the product of absence of problems but of a heart filled with trust in Jesus – even when it seems that all hell broke loose and that Jesus may be having a siesta.

#### **Isaiah 26:3-4 :**

**3** You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose* mind is stayed on *You*, Because he trusts in *You*. **4** Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.

#### **Psalm 4:8**

**8** I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

They found it hard to trust in a Jesus that was asleep; we are asked to trust in a Jesus that we have not even seen!

Sometimes it may seem difficult to trust in the Invisible One. Especially when our circumstances seem so visible and real. The Bible says that Moses “endured as seeing Him Who is invisible”.

## **John 20:29-32**

**29** Jesus said to him, “Thomas because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.”

**30** And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

### **4. The disciples spoke about the problem, Jesus spoke to the problem**

We have to take authority over the circumstances around us!

Someone said, ‘if you talk *about* the mountain, it will grow, if you talk *to* the mountain it will GO!’

## **Mark 11:22-23**

**22** So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. **23** For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.