

The Calming of Two Storms - Mark 5:1-20 Transcendent Series

Intro: You probably have heard the saying – The perfect storm –

A) A perfect storm is an unusual combination of events or things that produce an unusually bad or powerful result.

B) We all go through them – Our house this past week.

1) Plumbing problem, electrical problem, car problems and family coming in from out of town – memorial

C) Not huge issues in and of themselves – but a little overwhelming when they happen all at once.

D) Storms are a regular part of life – Christian or pagan doesn't matter

1) Bible says – It rains on the saved and unsaved alike

In our story today: We see Jesus triumphantly dealing with two stormy situations

A) The first was a storm of nature- a storm that sprung up without warning on the sea of Galilee

B) The other was a storm that was in a man

1) A storm that was Demonic in origin

C) A storm that left this man unfit for society

1) Helpless to know how to help this individual

D) We see Jesus power over both storms.

The first storm – Mark 4:35

35 On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side."

36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. 38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. 40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one

another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Here we see this storm that comes up without warning on the Sea of Galilee.

A) Common occurrence – MT ranges – a warm wind that comes from the Mediterranean – stirs up

B) Perfect storm situation – calm seas – to 6 foot swells and wind – Chaos – moments

C) Life can be that way right? One phone call

1) Followed by an email – argument –

D) Suddenly a calm morning – is instant Chaos!

1) You are freaking out – commotion

You feel like the Lord has abandoned you!

A) That is now the Disciples are feeling here

And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

B) Lord if you love me – why are these things happening to me! – Don't you care?

C) The Disciples really had no reason to panic and doubt the Lord.

D) In fact Jesus even questions them for their lack of faith

40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

E) Kind of crazy – think it about it – But Jesus is making a statement – You belong to me?

1) Have faith – don't panic – don't get overwhelmed by the storms –

2) Probably never get this perfect but we should be growing in our trust of him.

Why should the Disciples have stayed calm in the midst of the storm – why should we?

A) #1 V.35 Jesus said lets cross over – Jesus was leading them

B) They had an assurance that they were to make it

C)WHEN Jesus says lets cross over to the other side – you are going to the other side

D)Our assurance

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ; - **Philippians 1:6**

Jude 24 *Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*

Why should the Disciples have stayed calm in the midst of the storm – why should we?

A)#2 Jesus was with them! – His will was going to be carried out

B)Jesus is with us!

Hebrews 13:5, 6 "I will never leave you nor forsake you."6 **So we may boldly say:** "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear.

C)The fact that the Lord is with us – should allow us to go through life with confidence –

1)I am his – With me – for me – Help me

D)No matter what life throws at me – with his help I can handle it

A woman said to D.L. Moody, "I have found a wonderful promise!" she quoted Psalm 56:3, "When I am afraid, I will trust in Thee" Moody responded "Let me give you a better one," & he quoted Isaiah 12:2, "Behold God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid."

UNDERSTAND that faith & fear will sail into the harbor of every person's heart –

A)Just don't let faith ANCHOR THERE How ?

B)FEED YOUR FAITH - *Faith comes by hearing & hearing by the word of God - you stay in the word you feed on the word*

C)You cling to the promises - **FEED YOUR FAITH - SO KEY –**

1)Because if you feed your FEARS your faith will starve

Why should the Disciples have stayed calm in the midst of the storm? – Why should we?

A)#3 v.38 Jesus was at rest in the storm.

B)Guys I have news for You / **our Lord is at Rest / Sitting on the throne**

C)Listen Jesus is not up in Heaven Pacing back & forth **BITING HIS NAILS**

1)when it relates to your life - or the storm - you are in.

D)He is at rest - **because He is in control** - Nothing passes into my life w/ out His knowledge -

1)He is praying - *ever lives to make intercession*

E)Since He is at REST we should be AT REST

!!!!!! 1)Because Jesus was in the boat sleeping the disciples should have been at rest – **YOUR BOAT?**

Why should the Disciples have stayed calm in the midst of the storm – why should we?

A)#4 JESUS has power over every storm!

B)Sometimes – like here Jesus rescues us out of the storm –

C)Other times he helps us through it!

1)Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego – he was with them in the fire.

D)He might rescue you out of it but he will definitely see you through it

This is what is clear! – You are going to make it to the other side

A)The question that remains to be seen is this – what will be the condition of your life – process

B)Make it trusting – rejoicing, singing – growing
1)Testimony to everyone watching

C)Or are you going to make it – fretting – stressing controlling – freaking out

1)Causing everyone around you to be stressed out as well!

Jesus calms the storm of nature that comes out of no where

A) Our next scene he calms a storm – that was in a man.

B) A storm that had been raging for a long time

1) A storm that left the people who knew him feeling helpless and hopeless

C) Mark 5:1-

Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. ² And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³ who had *his dwelling among the tombs*; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, ⁴ because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. ⁵ And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

A) As this scene opens we see another kind of storm – this one is in a man – Demonized – Demon Possessed

B) We see a vivid picture of what *Satan* can do to people.

1) Satan we are told in the Bible is a thief & a robber whose ultimate purpose is to kill / ROB / destroy

C) Because of Satan's power in the man's life he lost everything ,

He lost his Home / Family/ Friends

A) He lost his **decency** as he ran around naked in the tombs

B) He lost his **self-control** and lived like a wild animal, screaming, cutting himself and frightening the citizens.

C) He lost his **peace & purpose for living**

This is the kind of destruction Satan hopes to bring into a life –

A) The Devil seeks to do - leave men naked / bound / tormented and on the run

B) We must Never underestimate the destructive power of Satan

C) Notice also where the Devil has this Demon possessed man Living

1) Dwelling amongst the Tombs – Cemetery

D) Demons are comfortable around the dead!

Date with my wife – nice walk!

A) Lets go walk around the Cemetery
Funerals – read – tombstones

B) Lets go get coffee at the Morgue

C) Listen the Cemetery / the morgue is not really a place that I feel real comfortable in -

1) Because I am alive -

D) I really don't want to be surrounded by that which reminds me of death

1) But this man is living amongst the tombs

Mark 5:6-7

6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him.

7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."

A) Now I ask you this question - WHO IS IN CONTROL HERE ?

B) Jesus hasn't said a word here - He just shows up on the scene and the Demons are freaking out over His mere Presence

1) *Here He comes - we are in trouble - Please Jesus don't hurt us don't torment us*

C) This should really solidify our stance of the Power of Jesus over Satan / over DEMONIC FORCES

D) Sometimes People wonder - Can a Christian be demon possessed?

1) The Answer is no!

Simple reason: HOW CAN JESUS & A DEMON CO- EXIST IN THE SAME - BODY –

A) IMPOSSIBLE - The bible declares /God is light & in Him there is no darkness at all !!!!

B) And we see from here that the Demons don't want to be where Jesus is

1) And they are in total submission to Him !!!!!

C)Not possessed – but oppressed – Battle

D)But if a believer is living in compromise – and is no longer in submission to Jesus

1) Giving the Devil and demonic forces – a avenue for control and influence in your life / **Not possession**

**So Jesus & Demons Can't co- exist in a person
But if NO JESUS - open game –**

A) Jesus was in complete Charge of this scene

**8 For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!"9 Then He asked him, "What is your name?"
And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many."10 Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.**

B) Legion was 6,000 Roman troops - 6,000 demons ?

1)Maybe – but it could also simply mean there was a lot

C)Or it was speaking to the power that this group of demons held over this man.

D)Point this group of demons is no match for Jesus -they are cowering in his very presence

**Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. Colossians 2:15
Disarmed - public spectacle**

He who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. 1 John 5:8

E)Wait doesn't the Bible say that He is a raging roaring Lion seeking whom he may devour -

1) Yes that is true but as it relates to the Believer - he is a toothless Lion who has been declawed!

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. James 4:7

FINISH UP – Mark 5:11-13

11 Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains.12 So all the demons begged

Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them."13 And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

NOTE THIS: These demons say - if we can't be in a person - can we please go into the pigs - (makes no difference to them- people / or pigs

A) We just want to destroy something

B) Animal rights people - Mean of Jesus allow those pigs to be destroyed

1)Bacon lovers – 2,000 pigs – that is a lot of bacon

C)Understand: In that reason Pigs were unclean – not Kosher

1) Jews were not to eat them or raise them

D)So these people were already disobeying God –

1) Jesus was going to expose their Hearts

Mark 5:14-17

14 So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened.15 Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.16 And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine.17 Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.

Now this is amazing to me – the People come out and see this guy that they couldn't do anything for

A) He is clothed – sitting – right mind

B)His life has been radically changed by Jesus – Are the people rejoicing?

1)No they are worried about their pigs

C)These people ask Jesus to Leave

1) Monkey place in Yugo – Drug problem cleaned up / sex problem - Police Chief Mad

He is a threat to our pig industry

A) They were more concerned w/ money than mercy / pigs than people

B) But Jesus on the other hand was demonstrating the Value of a person /
1) That people are much more valuable than pigs

C) But these people like those in our culture valued pigs more than people so they asked Jesus to leave

D) Can be so like us- We like Jesus until he starts messing with our lives - uncomfortable -

What is he going to do? Does Jesus Protest

A) Does He form a Rally!

B) Does He push His way thru – No He left

1) Not going to force / YOUR HEART

Mark 5:18-20

18 And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. 19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." 20 And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

Now I love this Jesus says *YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL SO GO & SHARE IT*

A) Hey so do you Some pulled out of the pit - others saved from it

B) Regardless you have a story to tell !!!!!!!

C) Witness – is not defending the truth

1) Declaring the truth

D) Jesus says you go tell people what I did for you

1) Result was there ended up being a strong Church in that region-

Listen there is a spiritual battle underway Who's side are you on?

A) Jesus said if you are not for me you are against me

B) NO Neutral ground.

C) Heart to Jesus today! – Free you

Storm today?

A) Your own sin and rebellion – led you there

B) Or Jesus has allowed it – led you there – to do a work in you. – Grow you

C) He is with you - He is for you

1) He is at Rest – will you rest?

D) He has power over the storm – Believe that

E) YOU are going to make it!

The question that remains to be seen is this

A) Will you make it – Singing or stressing

B) Will you make it – Praising or protesting

C) Will trust and not be afraid?