

The Lord's Message: Kingship of Jesus: Part 1: King of Creation

Date: July 11, 2021

Where: Kronsberg Park

Scripture Reference: Mark 4:35-41

Jesus is King of my life. That is a bold statement that I have just made. I am not just making this statement to be showy, but I am making this statement by faith. My prayer is if you have not made this statement for yourself that after listening to this three-part sermon series on the Kingship of Jesus you will.

Let us pray.

In order for a person to be king, they need a kingdom. During this sermon series, we are going to be discovering the three kingdoms of which Jesus is king. Those three kingdoms are creation, life, and the spiritual realm. Today we will learn how Jesus is King of creation.

There are two events in the book of Mark with Jesus in a boat in a storm, this passage that Michael just read, and in Mark 6:47-51. In that passage of scripture, Jesus is not on the boat, but on land. Jesus walks out to the boat where the disciples are rowing against the storm. After Jesus steps into the boat, the storm stops.

Now storms on the Sea of Galilee are a frequent occurrence. The Sea of Galilee is a lake that is surrounded by hills. This creates a bowl effect. The wind comes into the lake and starts a circular motion which stirs up the waves on the water into a terrifying, boat capsizing storm.

Another perspective that we need to understand about this story is that four of the disciples are fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John. They have been fishing the Sea of Galilee for many years. They should have been very familiar with the storms.

The last perspective that I want us to understand is where in the book of Mark this event is recorded. Chapter 4 of the book of Mark starts off with Jesus' parable about the sower. The sower spreads the seed, the Gospel, on good growing ground as well as on poor or marginal ground. On the good growing ground, the seed produces an abundant harvest. On the marginal ground, not so much of a harvest and on the poor ground, nothing. On the poor ground, the seed gets choked out by the weeds. The farmer, God, sows the seed on all the ground. There are several other parables, the lamp under a bushel basket, the growing seed and the mustard seed. Then comes the passage of scripture that we are looking at today. Now, this does not mean that these events occurred in this chronological order. The Bible is a wonderful book, not only of the history of God with a group of people (the Israelites), but also teaches us about God and His love for all of us. The gospel writer has put the teachings and this event together for us to understand the kingdom of God.

In the kingdom of God, God brings order to chaos. If we go back to the first book in the Bible, **Genesis 1:1-5**. The earth was in a chaotic state. God brought order to the chaos by first commanding let there be light and voila, there was light. God separated the time for light and darkness. God brought order to light and darkness and God created day and night. In this process of order, God created time. There would be a morning and evening. There would be a day. We live our lives structured on time. I read an article that looked at why people who have worked all their lives and retire, end up dying shortly after their retirement. The article stated the reason people died shortly after retirement was because there was not a structure of time in their lives. They did not get up out of bed at a set time or go to bed at a set time. They did not set a time for eating. I would add that they did not set a time for devotion with God. Time is very important to our lives because time brings order into our lives. God brings order to creation just by speaking.

The four Gospel writers are always showing the proof that Jesus is God. You might recall **John 1:1-5** which shows the proof of Jesus with God during the creation of the world. Jesus was part of the creation process with God the Father.

Back to **Mark 4:35-41**. We have a chaotic situation. We have a storm threatening to swamp the boat that Jesus and the disciples are in. There is a huge difference to the state of anxiety of the people. The disciples, four of which are fishermen, are in a state of fear. Jesus is asleep on a cushion in the stern of the boat. Notice how the writer points out that Jesus is asleep on a cushion. Can you get this beautiful mental picture of Jesus asleep on a cushion while the boat is being buffeted by the waves caused by the winds from the storm? Jesus is not worried about the waves. Jesus is fast asleep with his head resting on a cushion. How more laid back can you get? On the other hand, the disciples are in panic mode. They wake up Jesus and cry out “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” The disciples are questioning whether Jesus cares about them. Jesus, the one that would give His life for them and us in the cruelest of fashion – death on a cross.

Our lives can be a chaotic mess. The chaos can be brought about by the doctor telling us or our loved ones that we or they have cancer. The chaos can be brought about by natural storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods or excessive temperatures. How many times have we exerted so much effort, stress and worry in these situations? In the end crying out to God, “Where are you?” or “Do you even care about me?” At times like these, we need to remember what Jesus says in **Matthew 11:28-30**.

Jesus has now been awakened. Jesus simply gets up and says “Peace! Be still! God speaks order into chaos. Jesus speaks order into chaos. The winds stop. The waves become a dead calm. Instead of rejoicing, the disciples are filled with fear. The disciples wanted to get out to this situation, but they thought there was no way out of it. They had very little faith. Jesus confirms their lack of faith in **Mark 4:40**.

The rescuer was in the boat with them. The disciples had the King over all creation in the boat with them. If anyone could have stilled the storms, surely it would have been Jesus. If they only had faith that Jesus is God. In **Mark 4:16-17**, the disciples are the rocky soil where the sower spreads the seeds of faith. They rejoice in the good news, but when trouble comes, they fall away,

This proof that their rescuer was in the boat with them is found in the Word of God, the Bible: **Psalms 89:8-9, Zephaniah 3:17, and Joshua 1:9**. Instead of the disciples and all of us becoming afraid, we need to turn to faith. We need to pray. Instead of battling the storm ourselves, we need to pray to one that has control over all creation. We need to cry out to Jesus. Jesus will be with us in the storm. Jesus does not take us out of the storm, but Jesus walks with us through the storm. This confirmation is found in **Isaiah 43:1-3**.

Lastly, we know that Jesus' authority comes from God and we do not have to be in fear and awe as the disciples were in **Mark 4:41**. We have faith and believe in the promise that Jesus told his disciples before His ascension found in **Matthew 28:20**, "And remember I am with you always to the end of the age."

We will have chaotic lives, but we have a savior that will be with us in the chaos. Instead of becoming fearful, let us have faith and turn to Him in prayer. Jesus is King of creation. Amen.