

**Sermon:** Life without Jesus **VS** Life with Jesus

**Bible Passage:** Mark 6:45-52

(The beginning of this passage is disciples without Jesus and the conclusion of this passage is disciples with Jesus)

**1. Jesus urged (ἀναγκάζω to compel) His disciples to go by boat from one place to another without Him (verse 45)**

(a) Jesus intended his disciples to be by themselves, *probably* to make them understand how much they needed Him (verse 47)

(b) Whenever the disciples were separated from Jesus, they had troubles—always they were teaching moments

(c) Jesus had a purpose in making them go from one place to another—He was going to reveal at the end who He is

(d) Though He left them on the boat, they were not out of His sight (their predicament was not unknown to Him) (verse 48—He saw the disciples straining at the oars)

**2. Due to rough weather, their progress was halted [almost being in the same place or being driven to an unintended direction] from the afternoon to the next morning (verse 48)**

(a) Their experience on the water was like “tormenting” experience (βασανιζομένου the severe pain experienced through torture)

(b) The wind was blowing against them (έναντίος against to drive: of the wind driving ships or clouds [cf. James 3:4])

**3. Jesus comes towards the helpless disciples (verse 48)—it becomes a moment of revelation**

(a) Jesus came towards them by **walking on the water** (cf. Job 9:8; Psalm 77:19)—it is an act of theophany

(a1) Exodus 3:7-8: The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey

(a2) Job 9:8 He [the LORD] alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea

(a3) Psalm 77:19 Your [the LORD] path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen

(b) Jesus “**passes by**” (παρέρχομαι) them (“pass in view of” rather than “go beyond”)—it is an expression of theophany

(b1) Jesus intended to reveal who He is (cf. Exodus 33:19; 34:6; 1 Kings 19:11)—God’s revelation at the time of great distress

- Exodus 33:19 And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence

- Exodus 34:6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin

- 1 Kings 19:11 The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by

(b2) Jesus tells them “I am” (cf. Exodus 3:14) [Jesus not only does what YHWH did, but He introduced Himself as “I am”]

(b3) Jesus comes to them when the wind and waves were still buffeting them (verse 48)

(c) Instead of awe and worship, the disciples were afraid and bewildered (verses 49-52)

(c1) The disciples missed the revelation that God intended to give them [“who is this 4:41; the one calmed the storm is now coming in the storm]

(c2) They were not spiritually perceptive (verse 52)—for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened

(d) Jesus enters the boat [when the disciples are in the company of Jesus], the storm abates (verse 51)

**4. Just as God revealed Himself as “I AM” in the midst of human struggles, Jesus reveals Himself as I AM in the midst of human insufficiency, struggles, and fear**

**5. Just as God is revealed as “gracious and merciful” in Exodus 34:6, Jesus is revealed as “gracious and merciful” to the disciples who are in distress**

**6. This entire incident looks like a new Exodus under the leadership of Jesus**

**7. Life without Jesus is like the boat that was buffeted in the middle of the water, not making progress but being drifted away aimlessly**

**8. But, life around Jesus is secure and has direction**

**9. Take Away**

Secure your life journey with the presence of Jesus in your dreams, career, family etc.