

A photograph of a narrow, dimly lit cave passage. The walls are rugged and textured, with warm, orange and red lighting illuminating the scene. The perspective is looking down a narrow path that leads into the distance.

IT'S NOT FAR FROM PEACE TO PROBLEMS

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DATE: 09/22/2024

**What is the purpose
of the
Lord allowing storms
to come into our lives?**

3 reasons:

- Demonstrates that God has supreme power over everything**
- Strengthens the belief of his followers**
- All come to know that he can deliver us no matter what problems we encounter**

Mark 4:35-37 King James Version

35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

Jesus had been preaching and teaching all day to a large group of people (Mark 4:1)

JESUS WAS TIRED!!

**(notice the language used in the Bible....”
they took him even as he was”)**

Another key detail: the Bible mentions there are other ships in the water following Jesus and the disciples

(they will be witnesses to what is about to happen)

This is when a great storm arrives

Romans 13:12 King James Version

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

2 Timothy 4:2 King James Version

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

Mark 4:38 King James Version

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

**In the midst of this great storm, Jesus is
sleeping**

**HOW MANY TIMES HAVE PROBLEMS ENTERED
YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU WERE EXHAUSTED??**

Matthew 8:24 King James Version

24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

Luke 8:23 King James Version

23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy.

**These details are here to illustrate
just how severe the storm was**

Psalm 32:6 King James Version

6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

No matter how severe a storm is, peace and calm can be experienced during dark times!!

The Bible makes reference to the “sea” being the
Sea of Galilee

→ about 13 miles long and 8 miles wide

The storms in our life can come quickly and violently

CAN WE TRUST IN GOD DURING THESE TIMES???

CAN WE BE AT PEACE AS CHRIST WAS??

Psalm 34:18 King James Version

18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

1 John 5:4-5 King James Version

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

How did the disciples respond?

THE SAME WAY WE ALL PROBABLY WOULD!!!

Remember, the disciples were seasoned fisherman

They had been through storms before

So what made this time so different?

THEY CONFESSED THEIR INABILITY TO SOLVE

THE PROBLEM BY THEMSELVES

THEY, AND WE, NEEDED GOD'S HELP!!!

Mark 4:39 King James Version

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Notice the order of action:

“arose...rebuked.....said...”

"Peace be still"

is translated to literally mean

"be muzzled"

**Once again,
Jesus showing his total power over all of creation**

2 Corinthians 2:14 King James Version

14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

2 Timothy 4:18 King James Version

18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 King James Version

3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

**THESE NEXT TWO VERSES ARE
THE FIRST SET OF VERSES IN THIS SERMON**

THAT I WANT US TO PAY EXTRA CLOSE ATTENTION TO

Mark 4:40-41 King James Version

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

**The disciples feel greater fear on a calm sea w/Jesus,
than when the storm was raging**

**HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU KNOW THAT
HATE PEACE AND QUIET??**

**HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU KNOW THAT LOVE
CHAOS AND CONFUSION???**

Mark 5:1-5 King James Version

1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,

3 Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:

4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

A eerie event, at night on a lake near a cemetery

**When we think of a lake or sea, we usually
imagine a calm, soothing, peaceful place**

NOT TODAY!!!!!!

**The demon possessed man represents
the world that loves everything God hates**

Evil thoughts/actions/deeds/words/environment

John 3:19 King James Version

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Ephesians 2:2-3 King James Version

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

**This man was an outcast from society,
making his home in among the dead**

CEMETERIES REPRESENT THE PAST.....

JESUS WAS ABOUT TO GIVE THIS MAN

A NEW FUTURE!!!!!!

Romans 13:14 King James Version

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Mark 5:6-13 King James Version

6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, **7** And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. **8** For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.

9 And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many.

10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. **11** Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. **12** And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

A Roman legion was about 6000 men

Even this multitude runs scared from our Lord!!!

Mark 2:17 King James Version

17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Luke 19:10 King James Version

10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Jesus spoke the words of power

→ revealed the man's great need

→ revealed the enemies true nature

Mark 5:14-15 King James Version

14 And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

15 And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

The herd of swine destroyed

→ unclean spirits into unclean animals

The man delivered and in his right mind.....

WHAT A MIRACLE!!!

ONLY THE LORD CAN HAVE US

“SITTING, AND CLOTHED, AND IN HIS RIGHT MIND”

Ephesians 3:20 King James Version

20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

**THE NEXT SET OF VERSES ARE THE SECOND SET
THAT I WANT US TO PAY EXTRA CLOSE ATTENTION TO**

Mark 5:16-17 King James Version

16 And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine.

17 And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.

And they that fed the swine fled...”

→ Swine keepers ran to tell the swine owners about what had just happened, because they didn't want to get blamed

**THERE WAS A FINANCIAL COST
TO LOSING THE SWINE!!!**

**Those that saw what happened
tell both sides of the story**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT???

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT???

**THE SAD TRUTH OF THE PEOPLE'S
REACTION.....WE SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED**

SWINE MEANT MORE TO THEM THAN SANITY

PIGS MEANT MORE TO THEM THAN PEACE

HOGS MEANT MORE TO THEM THAN HAPPINESS

Where was the celebration of the demon-possessed man who got delivered and saved???

NOWHERE TO BE FOUND

MONEY MEANT MORE TO THEM THAN THE MAN!!!

Jesus granted their request, he leaves

JESUS DOESN'T STAY WHERE HE'S NOT WANTED!!!

Matthew 10:33 King James Version

33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 King James Version

10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

Mark 8:38 King James Version

38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Mark 5:18-20 King James Version

18 And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. **19** Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

20 And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.

The delivered man wants to stay with Jesus

**Jesus sees something special in this man,
gives him a new mission and purpose**

The former demon-possessed man becomes the
1st Gentile missionary

What a homecoming it must have been for this
man!!!!

**Can you imagine what his family and friends
must have said when they saw him??**

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1 Timothy 3:4-5 King James Version

4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

1 Timothy 5:8 King James Version

8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

ITS NOT FAR FROM PEACE TO PROBLEMS!!!

JESUS CHANGES ALL WHO RECEIVE HIM BY FAITH!!!

**NO MATTER WHAT STORMS
OR
PROBLEMS WE COME ACROSS,**

**TRUSTING IN JESUS WILL GIVE US
THE PEACE WE DESIRE!!**

CHANGES ALL WHO RECEIVE HIM BY FAITH!!!

A close-up photograph of a person's hands, one wearing a blue glove, holding a small, glowing blue object against a background of warm, orange and red light. The text "IT'S NOT FAR FROM PEACE TO PROBLEMS" is overlaid in the center in a purple, outlined font.

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