

# WHO IS THIS?

## MARK 4:35-41

## Who Is This?

- What a wonderful confusing few of days the disciples have had following Jesus
  - Experienced the excitement of His healings that only God or someone from God could do
  - Saw Jesus challenge the Pharisees' spiritual authority openly by healing on the Sabbath
  - Maybe questioning their own decision to follow Jesus as He was rejected by the Religious Leaders, the crowds, and even Jesus' own family
  - Experienced the fear of following Jesus
    - The massive crowds around Jesus pressing in on them
    - The Pharisees plotting to kill Jesus

## Who Is This?

- What a wonderful confusing few of days the disciples have had following Jesus
  - **Mark 3:6 NIV**, Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.
  - Experienced the frustrations of trying to understand Jesus' parables
    - How can we follow someone we can't understand?
- Can Jesus really do all of this?
  - Ending the day with their faith being tested in a storm and the question in their minds, "Who is this?"
  - It is the same question each of us must ask and answer ourselves before we partake of the Lord's Supper, "Who is Jesus?"

## Scripture

- **Mark 4:35-41 NIV**, 35 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” 36 Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. 37 A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”
  - 39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. 40 He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” 41 They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - The disciples and Jesus have had an exhausting few days
  - **Vs. 36**, "just as He was"
    - No preparations, No time for Jesus to recuperate from His weariness since He quickly fell fast asleep, maybe hungry
  - They were probably reliving the words and events of the last few days, maybe talking about them
  - Most of the disciples were fishermen and this was their sea, and they were very familiar with the climate around it

## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - Suddenly, unexpectedly a “furious squall” caught them unprepared
    - **AMP**, “fierce windstorm”, hurricane force winds
  - There was a great danger of the boat sinking
  - **Vs. 37**, “the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped”
    - **TLB**, “High waves began to break into the boat until it was nearly full of water and about to sink.”
  - Can you taste the overwhelming fear breaking over their hearts trying to sink them just as the waves were their boat?

## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - They notice Jesus is asleep on a cushion
  - Fear and anxiety causes us to strike out at times even to those closest to us
  - **Vs. 38**, The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"
    - You ever been here? Try to keep your boat upright and Jesus seems to be asleep.
    - Notice they addressed Jesus as teacher, not Master or Lord

## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - I wonder what they expected Jesus to do
    - Pick up a bucket and bail water out of the boat
    - Maybe there was another rope that needed held
    - Maybe just to pay attention
  - But they did not expect what Jesus did



## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - **Vs. 39**, He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.
    - **AMP**, And He got up and [sternly] rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Hush, be still (muzzled)!" And the wind died down [as if it had grown weary] and there was [at once] a great calm [a perfect peacefulness].
  - Jesus asked them and us this morning a question in **Vs. 40**, He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
    - The question is not why were they concerned but why was there overwhelming, rampant, stifling fear let loose in their hearts in this event, "so afraid"

## Who Is This?

- Let's put ourselves in this living parable
  - "I've told you many things I'm bringing about with the Kingdom of God. Do you not have faith I will accomplish them?"
  - Faith does not become settled in a person's life until it has been tested

## The disciples asked themselves a question of eternal importance, “Who is this Jesus”

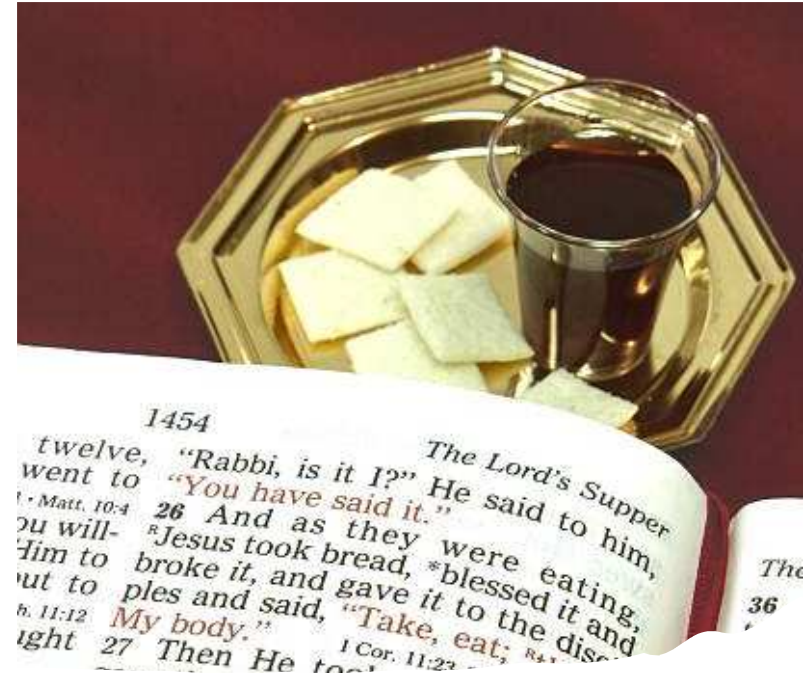
- **Vs. 41**, They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”
  - Terrified not because of the storm but because of the authority Jesus demonstrated
  - If Jesus has this authority, then He is capable of fulfilling every promise, word spoken to us
  - He can prepare my heart-soil to receive His seeds of truth
    - He can shine His truth into every area of my life providing freedom
    - I can trust Him to be working even if there is no physical evidence
    - I can trust Him to complete His good work in Me

## Lord's Supper Preparation

- We must ask ourselves the same question, “Who is this Jesus” before personally observing in the Lord's Supper
- **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:23-26 NIV**, 23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” 25 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
  - You personally proclaim the Lord's death
  - You personally proclaim the Lord's return (*until he comes*)

## Lord's Supper Preparation

- We must ask ourselves the same question, “Who is this Jesus” before personally observing in the Lord’s Supper
  - **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:27 NIV**, 27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.
  - “There Is a Fountain”, pg. 142 BB



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