

## Study of Matthew

April 2, 2023 : Sunset Avenue Church of God / 11:00 AM

Discussion Question: How do you respond when storms hit your life?

Matthew 8:23 — 27

### 1. Accompany Jesus

Jesus has said to the disciples follow me and they follow.

To follow is to join HIM as his attendant; to accompany HIM; to follow one in time

It is to cleave steadfastly to someone; to conform wholly to HIS example, in living and if need be in dying

Zach Thornburg, *"Lord, we are behind you all the way."*

On this Palm Sunday let's remind ourselves that we are not just the crowd that shouts praises one day and crucify the next. We are those that have chosen to accompany Jesus all the way!

### 2. Appeal to Jesus

Following Jesus is a guarantee that there will be danger.

It is glorious to follow Jesus. To hear HIS voice, to see the validation of HIS work and to walk with HIM in victory. But if we accompany Jesus, HE leads us into storms because the broken and the hurting are in the storms.

The Disciples appeal is Free Us from Danger. Jesus on the other hand has supernatural confidence. The storm cannot keep me from the Father's task!

Let's remind ourselves that when life's storms hit we will appeal to the one that has confidence even when the storm rages and we are beyond our capacity to withstand it.

### 3. Afraid with Jesus

Jesus ask why are you so fearful?

To be fearful is to be timid; but deeper than our idea of timidness; it is dread from being faithless

Their fear and our fear is rooted in a lack of faith. *"O ye of little faith!"*

We can follow Jesus and still live in dread because we have little faith. We can have Jesus in our lives and still not take the Father's care for us seriously.

FEAR IS REAL but even though Jesus points out my little faith, HE NEVER LEAVES MY BOAT!

#### 4. Authority of Jesus

Jesus rebukes the wind and the sea.

To rebuke is **to forbid**...

Jesus has all authority and HE is the God that prohibits and the God that permits!

#### 5. Authentication of Jesus

vs. 27 *"What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!"*

God does not have to validate Himself but HE does.

HIS miracles validated who HE was...

- Jesus is Greater than the force of sin;
- Jesus is Greater than the force of demons;
- Jesus is Greater than the force of disease;
- Jesus is Greater than the force of nature

HE is KING OVER ALL

*Matthew 21:5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.' "*

On this Palm Sunday be reminded that the Jesus that came riding into Jerusalem, meek and lowly on a donkey is King!

There is no storm that can stop King Jesus from fulfilling HIS purpose!