

The Storm and the Son of God Outline

Matthew 14:22–36

Introduction

Life is full of unexpected storms: illness, setbacks, disappointments. Trials are normal in a fallen world; what matters is who we turn to. Matthew's Gospel shapes our understanding of Jesus: not just a teacher, but the sovereign Son of God who rescues his people.

Main point: We must fix our eyes on the Son of God, who is sovereign over all our circumstances.

Context & The Onset of the Storm (14:22–24)

- Jesus feeds 5000, sends disciples ahead, dismisses crowds, and retires to pray alone. *Even Jesus needed to pray!*
 - The disciples' circumstances led them to fear
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The Storm (14:25–32)

- Jesus walks on water to meet the disciples. This is not a trick, but a display of divine sovereignty.
 - Jesus responds to the disciples fear with comfort and self-revelation: *"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."*
 - "It is I" = Greek *ego eimi* → **"I AM"**, linking Jesus to the God of Exodus 3:14. Jesus is the same God who spoke to Moses in the burning bush, and who has been faithful to his people for all of history.
 - Jesus is sovereign over all things, including our storms.
 - Peter steps out of the boat: *when we fix our eyes on Jesus, we get to partake in his wonderful work in the world.*
 - Peter sinks when he fixes eyes on the storm, but looks back to Jesus with little faith and cries out: "Lord, save me!"
 - Jesus didn't take his eyes off Peter, but Peter took his eyes off of Jesus.
 - The object of our faith matters way more than the measure of it.
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The Son of God Revealed (14:33–36)

- Disciples respond in worship: "Truly you are the Son of God."
- This is the first time the disciples clearly recognized Jesus's divinity.
- Time with Jesus deepens faith and transforms fear into worship.

Four Principles for Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

1. Know Jesus rightly

- a. Understand who Jesus is: divine Son, ruler of wind and waves, Savior.
- b. Trials overwhelm when we know God poorly; worship emerges when we know God rightly.

2. Expect storms

- a. Life's trials refine faith (1 Peter 1:6–7).
- b. When we anticipate storms, we respond with calm assurance rather than panic.

3. Call out to Jesus

- a. Actively seek him in fear and doubt.
- b. Peter cried, “Lord, save me!”. We must do the same, even in weak faith.
- c. Faith is strengthened when we bring our doubts and fears to the sovereign Son of God.

4. Praise the Lord of the Storm

- a. Worship in response to Jesus' deliverance.
- b. Trials don't stop worship; we recognize that God is sovereign regardless of our trials or the outcome of them.

Conclusion

- Jesus is sovereign over all storms and seeks to **rescue, strengthen, and grow our faith**.
- **Call to action:** Fix your eyes on Jesus, call to him in fear, and respond in worship.

Oh soul, are you weary and troubled?

No light in the darkness you see?

There's light for a look at the savior

And life more abundant and free

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in his wonderful face

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim

In the light of his glory and grace