

Why are You Afraid?

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I. Introduction. Text: Mark 4:35-5:20.

II. The calming of the storm.

A. The disciples charge Jesus when the storm came because He went to sleep. We too often feel like the Lord is indifferent toward our needs.

B. The disciples panicked, so Jesus arose and rebuked the sea.

1. The Lord was not really speaking to the elements--He spoke to the demonic elements behind the wind and the sea.

2. Jesus used these same words towards a demon elsewhere.

C. Jesus asked the disciples why they were afraid suggesting that they had no faith.

1. Faith is always the answer to our fears regardless of what they are.

2. Their faith should have reminded them that the boat could not sink with the master of the universe in it and that the storm would pass.

3. Failure in faith is the doorway to greater vision--even in weak faith the Lord will see us through.

III. The casting of evil spirits into the swine.

A. There are various degrees in which a demon can influence a person.

B. Signs of the demonic.

1. Physical or moral uncleanness.

2. Isolation.

3. Torment.

4. The immediate recognition of Jesus as the Most High God.

5. Dual personality.

6. Suicidal tendencies.

C. Jesus sent the man to the Gentiles to witness to them by simply telling them what happened to him.

IV. Jesus is Lord whether the threat comes from without or from within.

Application questions:

1. What are some things of which you are afraid?

2. How can failure in faith be a positive thing?

3. What does the casting of the evil spirit into the swine teach us about how to respond when Jesus brings victory into our lives? Explain.
