

Passing Through the Storm

By Kathy Burden

4/15/2018

A STORM IS DEFINED AS A DISTURBANCE OF THE ATMOSPHERE MARKED BY WIND AND USUALLY RAIN, OR THUNDER OR LIGHTENING. IT IS ALSO DESCRIBED AS A TUMULTUOUS OUTBURST, A SUDDEN VIOLENT EMOTION OR ACTION, OR A VIOLENT ASSAULT ON A DEFENDED POSITION.

WE ARE BEING ASSAULTED ON EVERY SIDE, THERE IS A TUMULTUOUS OUTBURST IN THE ATMOSPHERE, AND WE ARE HAVING VIOLENT ASSAULTS AGAINST OUR FAMILIES, OUR HEALTH, OUR FINANCES, AND OUR JOBS.

READ MATTHEW 8: 23-27.

STORMS COME AND STORMS OF LIFE GO. WE MUST KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE STORMS OF LIFE TO OBTAIN VICTORY ON THE OTHER SIDE.

KEY POINTS OF THIS PASSAGE:

1. THE DISCIPLES GOT INTO THE BOAT BECAUSE IT WAS THE QUICKEST WAY TO THE OTHER SIDE. JESUS KNEW A STORM WOULD ARISE SO HE WENT TO SLEEP.
2. THE WINDS AND THE WAVES BEGAN TO BECOME SO VIOLENT THAT THE BOAT WAS ABOUT TO BE SWAMPED.
3. THE DISCIPLES CALLED ON THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD SAVE THEM.
4. THE DISCIPLES HAD BEEN WITH JESUS AND YET DID NOT REALLY RECOGNIZE HIS POWER EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD ALREADY SEEN MANY MIRACLES. IN FACT THEY HAD JUST BEEN WITH JESUS AND SEEN HIM DELIVER ALL THE DEMONIZED AND HEAL THE SICK IN CAPERNAUM.
5. JESUS ALREADY KNEW WHAT WAS IN THE DISCIPLES AND WHAT WAS NOT IN THE DISCIPLES.
6. JESUS HAS ALL AUTHORITY OVER ALL STORMS INCLUDING THE ONES YOU ARE WALKING THROUGH RIGHT NOW.
7. BEING WITH JESUS, THE DISCIPLES REALLY DID NOT KNOW JESUS UNTIL THIS MOMENT.

8. THE DISCIPLES FIRST REACTION WAS FEAR NOT FAITH.

9. JESUS NEEDED FOR THE DISCIPLES TO SEE WHAT THEY DID NOT POSSESS BECAUSE HE KNEW WHAT WAS WAITING ON THE OTHERSIDE.

WHY DO STORMS COME?

1. THEY COME TO MATURE US.
2. STORMS COME TO BUILD FAITH AND TRUST NOT IN OUR ABILITY BUT IN FATHER GOD.
3. STORMS COME TO BRING US INTO An INTIMATE PLACE WITH OUR FATHER WHEREBY WE BECOME THE SONS OF GOD.

HOW DO WE NAVIGATE THE STORMS OF LIFE AND EMERGE VICTORIOUS?

1. WE COME INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE WORD OF GOD AND NOT NATURAL CIRCUMSTANCES WE SEE. AGREEMENT IS HARMONY OR ACCORDANCE IN OPINION OR FEELING, A POSITION OR RESULT OF AGREEING. MATTHEW 18:19 "AND AGAIN I GIVE YOU AN ETERNAL TRUTH: IF TWO OF YOU AGREE TO ASK GOD FOR SOMETHING IN A SYMPHONY OF PRAYER, MY HEAVENLY FATHER WILL DO IT FOR YOU. FOR WHEREVER TWO OR THREE COME TOGETHER IN HONOR OF MY NAME, I AM RIGHT THERE WITH THEM." GOD WILL GIVE US WHAT WE ARE READY FOR.
2. WE MUST REHEARSE ALL OF THE VICTORIES AND THINGS THAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US IN THE PAST SEASON. THIS WILL BUILD OUR FAITH. READ JOSHUA 4: 1-7. WHEN JOSHUA SAFELY REACHED THE OTHER SIDE, FOLLOWING THE LORD'S COMMAND, HAD A MOMUMENT SET UP. TWELVE STONES, ONE FOR EACH TRIBE, WERE SET UP AS A MEMORIAL TO GOD'S PROTECTION OF HIS PEOPLE. IT IS THE GOODNESS OF GOD THAT REMINDS US THAT WE DIDN'T GET WHERE WE ARE BY OURSELVES. REHEARSE WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU IN THE PAST AND HOW HE BROUGHT YOU THROUGH THE STORM.
3. WATCH OUR WORDS. WORDS CAN BE MOCKING, TEARING DOWN IN A RELATIONSHIP. KIDS MOCK THEIR PARENTS AND HUSBAND AND WIVES MOCK ONE ANOTHER. THE WORD MOCKING MEANS TO TREAT WITH CONTEMPT OR TO RIDICULE. TO LAUGH AT SOMEONE AND BEING UNKIND WITH OUR WORDS. IN PROVERBS 18: 4 "A PERSON'S WORDS CAN BE LIFE-GIVING WATER; WORDS OF TRUE WISDOM ARE AS REFRESHING AS A

BUBBLING BROK.” PROVERBS 18:21 “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit of it.”

4. WE MUST PRAISE OUR WAY THROUGH OUR STORM. READ PSALMS 144. I WILL SING A BRAND NEW SONG. THE HARP INSIDE MY HEART WILL MAKE MUSIC TO YOU.
5. PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF CHRIST. READ EPHESIANS 6:11-20. WHEN YOU HAVE DONE ALL YOU KNOW TO DO, THEN STAND.

THERE IS VICTORY ON THE OTHERSIDE. THERE ARE TWO BOATS. YOU CAN GET INTO THE BOAT OF DOUBT, UNBELIEF AND FEAR OR YOU CAN GET INTO THE BOAT OF FAITH, HOPE AND PEACE.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORM THERE ARE ALWAYS NEW ASSIGNMENTS, NEW REALMS OF INTIMACY IN GOD, AND MORE VICTORY.

GOD HAS NEED OF US IN THIS HOUR. HE IS RAISING A PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO GO THROUGH STORMS, DELIVER THE DEMONIACS AND SET THE CAPTIVES FREE.