

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1936

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PART 38: WALKING ON WATER

JESUS WALKING ON WATER

Once Jesus finished feeding the five thousand, He told the disciples to return in the ship. **Matthew 14:22**

Matthew does not explain why Jesus sent them away and told the multitude that He wished to return home. The God-man went some place by Himself, most likely to pray and commune with God the Father. There was no record of what took place since He had sent away the twelve. **verse 23**

The disciples were not making much headway in sailing because the sea was rough. Sometime during the fourth watch (3 a.m. to 6 a.m.), Jesus came down the mountain and started to walk across the water, given there was no boat available. **verses 24-25**

The apostles had never seen a man walking on water; they were fearful, thinking it was a ghost. **verse 26**

Mark states that the wind was blowing against the ship and they were rowing windward to move forward. **Mark 6:48**

When Jesus heard them screaming in fear, He told them not to be afraid. **Matthew 14:27**

Mark states the disciples saw the God-man walking on the water and they were troubled. **Mark 6:49**

Peter was the bravest member of the group and he wanted to walk on water just like Jesus. **Matthew 14:28**

The Sea of Galilee was anything but calm. The surface of the water was choppy with white caps from the strong wind. Matthew does not explain how the disciples saw Jesus since it was dark.

- Was there strong moonlight?
- Was the sky clear and the stars shining on the lake?
- Was there a supernatural light surrounding Jesus?



Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee
Rembrandt van Rijn



Regardless, they were able to see Jesus, and Peter jumped over the side to find that he was standing on liquid water! **verse 29**

As he started to walk away from the ship, Peter felt the turbulent wind blowing upon him and the rolling waves beneath his feet filled him with fear and he began to sink. **verse 30**

Jesus took Peter's hand and walked him back to the ship. The moment they were in the ship, the fierce winds stopped and the water became calm. **verses 31-32**

There was a brief period of time as the apostles realized what they witnessed:

1. The impossibility of Jesus walking on the water.
2. Peter briefly walks on water and is saved from sinking.
3. The roar of the wind and the boisterous waves instantly ceasing the moment Jesus stepped into the ship.



Full of awe, the men chosen by Jesus recognized the power of the God-man in their midst and worshipped Him as the Son of God. **verse 33**

JESUS IS HERE

When Jesus and the disciples reached land, a cry arose as people recognized the God-man and word quickly spread to bring the sick. The power emanating from Jesus was so strong that simply touching His garment rendered instant healing. **Matthew 14:34-36**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?