

The Gospel of Luke

A God Who Is In Control (Part 1)

Luke 8:22-25

1. The Calm Before the Storm (v.22-23a)
 - A. The Occasion (v.22)

According to the testimony of the other gospel accounts (Matt 8:23-27; Mark 4:36-41), this excursion took place after a long day of teaching the crowds where Jesus first told the parable of the soils.
 - B. The Lord Jesus Sleeps (v.23a)

Preaching is exhausting; that Jesus was tired and needed to sleep is a testimony to His true humanity (cf. Mark 4:38; Luke 7:36; John 19:28).
2. The Very Fierce Storm (v.23b)

With Mt. Hermon to the North (9,200 feet high) and the Golan Heights to the east, the Sea of Galilee sits at 720 feet below sea level and is well known for being extremely turbulent. The topography and climate of the region makes it uniquely susceptible to sudden and terribly violent storms.
3. The Panic of the Disciples (v.24a)

The disciples understood that they were in terrible danger. They had every reason to be fearful (cf. Mark 4:40) because they knew that this storm could kill them.
4. The Two Rebukes (vs.24b-25a)
 - A. The Lord Jesus Rebukes the Wind and Waves (v.24b)

With a few words of command, Jesus calmed the sea. It was not only the winds that were halted, but the waves were stopped as well.
 - B. The Lord Jesus Rebukes the Disciples (v.25a)

At this time the disciples were still unclear of just who Jesus was. In place of clarity about Jesus' identity, they had experienced amazing wonders He performed (cf. Luke 5:24; 7:14) and Jesus' rebuke is in light of these experiences.
5. The Fear of the Disciples (v.25b)

When God shows forth His majesty or His power, people respond with fear (Ex 3:6; 20:18; Isa 6:5; Rev 1:17). It is right for believers to have and to maintain a fearfully correct understanding of God (Job 28:28; Ps 111:10; Prov 1:7; 9:10).
6. The Question that Must be Answered (v.25c)

Luke leaves this rhetorical question unanswered here, but answering this question is the point of this gospel. He is God, and He is in control of all things (Job 38:1ff; Col 1:15-17).