

Message Notes

From Fear to Faith: Jesus over Nature

Introduction - Answered prayers

Two weeks ago: The Parable of the Four Soils (Luke 8:1-15)

Last week: When Hearing is Seen (Luke 8:16-21)

Today's Message: Luke 8:22-25
From Fear to Faith:
Jesus over Nature

Jesus calming the storm through art

The Set Up
Luke 8:22-23a

The Conflict
Luke 8:23b-24a

A unique window into the Incarnation

The Turning Point
Luke 8:24b-25a

Is there a devil behind every bush?

Jesus over Nature
Psalm 107:24-30, 65:5-7

A sermon that changed Tim Keller's life

"Where is your faith?"

The Resolution?
Luke 8:25b

Lindsay's story

Gospel Application

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Luke 8:22-25

22 One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. 23 As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. 24 The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25 "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

Psalm 107:24-30

24 They saw the works of the LORD, his wonderful deeds in the deep. 25 For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. 26 They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. 27 They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits' end. 28 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. 29 He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. 30 They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven.

Psalm 65:5-7

5 You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas, 6 who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, 7 who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.





Faulty premise:

**If Jesus loves me – truly loves me –
He won't let me go through anything bad.**

The Gospel of
LUKE

The King and His Kingdom
Luke 3:21 to Luke 9:50

Two weeks ago:
The Parable of the Four Soils
Luke 8:1-15

Luke 8:4-15

11 “This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God...13 Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away...15 “As for the seed in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”

Last Week's Message:

How hearing is seen

Luke 8:16-21

Luke 8:16-21

16 “No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light.



As Luke has ordered these scenes (cf. 1:1–4), Jesus first speaks parabolically to emphasize the need for hearing with a faith that perseveres (vv 4–21). This will now be followed by narrative exemplars of Jesus' parabolic speech. The word of God is being proclaimed in deeds of power, and people do respond differently — with fear and amazement, with fear and rejection, with the desire to join Jesus' band of disciples and obedience, with faith, and with astonishment.

Joel B. Green,
The Gospel of Luke, (pp. 330–334).
Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.



This Week's Message:

From Fear to Faith: Jesus over Nature

Luke 8:22-25



Jesus Stilling the Tempest

James Tissot

The Storm on the Sea of Galilee

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn





Luke 8:22-25

22 One day Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side of the lake.” So they got into a boat and set out. 23 As they sailed, he fell asleep.

Luke 8:22-25

A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

24 The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we’re going to drown!”

Luke 8:22-25

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25 “Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples.

Luke 8:22-25

In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

The Set Up

Luke 8:22-25

22 One day Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side of the lake.” So they got into a boat and set out. 23 As they sailed, he fell asleep.

We see here a remarkable insight into the Incarnation...Of course, to the disciples, Christ seemed to be unaware of their plight. We know that in the Incarnation, Christ chose to always live in conscious dependence upon the Father. Therefore, he could sleep a real sleep, knowing that the Father would awaken him to do his will.

~ R. Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know the Truth,
Preaching the Word



The Conflict

Luke 8:22-25

A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

24 The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we’re going to drown!”

The Conflict (through Mark's eyes)

Mark 4:38

38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

Faulty premise:

**If Jesus loves me – truly loves me –
He won't let me go through anything bad.**

The Turning Point

Luke 8:22-25

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25 “Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples.

A guy named Celsus, who was a pagan philosopher, was a great opponent of Christianity ... All the opponents of Christianity denounced Christ, but never, ever denied his miracles. His enemies knew better than to deny his miracles. Nobody denied. What they all said was he probably learned them through black magic because he spent his childhood in Egypt.

~ Keller, T. J. (2013). The Timothy Keller Sermon Archive.
New York City: Redeemer Presbyterian Church.



His opponents jumped on the fact that Jesus did not actually spend his early years in Nazareth. He spent his earliest years in Egypt because of the flight to Egypt. They say that's probably where he learned to do it. The point here is none of his enemies ever denied his miracle-working power. Why? His miracles were common knowledge. There was no way anybody could deny them. These things happened.

~ Keller, T. J. (2013). The Timothy Keller Sermon Archive.
New York City: Redeemer Presbyterian Church.



Jesus over Nature

Psalm 107:28-30

28 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. 29 He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. 30 Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

Jesus over Nature

Psalm 65:5-7

5 By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the
earth and of the farthest seas; 6 the one who by his
strength established the mountains, being girded with
might; 7 who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of
their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

The Turning Point

Luke 8:22-25

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25 “Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples.

There's a great sermon by David Martyn Lloyd-Jones years ago in which he notices in Luke 8, Jesus says to them, "Where is your faith?" not "Why don't you have more faith?" Notice he doesn't say, "You poor guys, you need more faith. We'll pray for you."

~ Keller, T. J. (2013). The Timothy Keller Sermon Archive.
New York City: Redeemer Presbyterian Church.



“He says, “Where is your faith?” Do you know what he’s doing? He’s saying, “You know who I am! You’ve seen what I’ve done! You have the faith; get it out! It should be here. Where is it? You’re not remembering.”

~ Keller, T. J. (2013). The Timothy Keller Sermon Archive.
New York City: Redeemer Presbyterian Church.



The Resolution?

Luke 8:22-25

In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

Though the disciples had no way to know it during those terrible moments, that miserable storm was a divinely appointed vehicle to teach them about God and his power in their lives. This choreography of Heaven was essential for their spiritual development. This is a vital principle of spiritual life: Without difficulties, without trials, without stresses, and even failures, we would never grow to be what we should become.

~ R. Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know the Truth,
Preaching the Word



They had been with Jesus night and day for three years. They had observed his perfect character and soaked up his divine words. But in their fear they had abandoned all spiritual logic. How like us – except that we have even less excuse. Fear comes, and all the reasons for trust depart – all our past experience, all the knowledge God has given us.

~ R. Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know the Truth,
Preaching the Word



*I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith and love and every grace,
Might more of His salvation know,
And seek more earnestly His face.
'Twas He who taught me thus to pray,
And He I trust has answered prayer;
But it has been in such a way
As almost drove me to despair.*

~anonymous



Gospel Application

Are you holding on to a faulty premise about God – that his love means you won't encounter hardship?

Gospel Application

Are you holding on to a faulty premise about God – that his love means you won't encounter hardship?

Or, are you prepared to meet hardship with faith and trust in God and his Word?