

The Gospel of Mark

Sermon 26: Sermon Notes

Title: "A nice walk ON the sea"

Scripture: Mark 6:45-52

Date preached: February 26th 2023

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45 Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away. 46 And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. 47 Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. 48 Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by. 49 And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; 50 for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 51 Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. 52 For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.

45 예수님은 군중들을 돌려보내시는 동안 제자들이 서둘러 배를 타고 자기보다 먼저 건너편 벳새다로 건너가게 하셨다. 46 군중을 다 보내신 후에 예수님은 기도하시려고 산으로 가셨다. 47 □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□ □□ 다 한가운데 있었으며 예수님은 혼자 육지에 계셨다. 48 바람이 휘몰아치므로 제자들이 노를 젓느라고 애쓰는 것을 보신 예수님은 새벽 4 시쯤 바다 위를 걸어서 제자들에게 오셨다가 그대로 지나가시려 하셨다.

49-50 그때 바다 위를 걸어오시는 예수님을 보고서 제자들은 유령인 줄 알고 모두 놀라 소리를 질렀다. 그래서 예수님이 즉시 그들에게 "나다. 무서워하지 말고 안심하여라" 하시면서, 51 그들이 탄 배에 오르자 곧 바람이 그쳤다. 제자들은 너무 놀라 아찔 줄 몰랐다.

52 이것은 그들이 빵에 대한 기적을 깨닫지 못하고 오히려 마음이 둔해졌기 때문이었다.

Review

Before we look in more detail at today's passage of scripture let us review what we studied last time.

We examined the very familiar miracle story of Jesus feeding the 5000. There is a good reason why I say that this is a very familiar miracle for bible readers. The reason is that this miracle is the only one, aside from the resurrection of the Lord Jesus to be recorded in each of the four gospels. So if you have read any of the gospels you will know this story well. Let us briefly review what happened.

Mark picks up the narrative with the disciples returning to Jesus following their period of trial ministry. They had been sent out by the Lord and empowered to preach, heal and cast out demons. When this time of ministry is over they report back to Jesus. In modern terms we would say they were to be debriefed. They would report to Jesus what they had said, seen and done. Jesus would then tailor His teaching for the challenges ahead. However given the situation with the large crowds Jesus decided to take the disciples away to a quiet place. Here they would be better able to rest and recuperate. Sadly this wasn't to be.

The large crowd followed the boat they were in and when they landed, probably in the vicinity of Bethsaida the people were waiting. As I said last time we would probably have been annoyed by this intrusion into our time of rest. None of us like to have our rest or break time interrupted. We might have been tempted to say to these people, "Leave me alone, I want to rest and be by myself." This is however not how the Lord Jesus responded. He was instead moved by compassion. When Jesus looked at this mass of people they resembled sheep who lacked a shepherd. They had leaders such as the priests, the Pharisees and the scribes, but they were not properly leading the people. The people then were wandering around as if lost and in need of guidance.

Jesus called them to Him and began to teach them. Today, there are some that think it is most important to minister to people's physical needs. We should feed, clothe and house people before we do anything else. Now, these things are important, but the Lord Jesus here shows us the proper order of things. It is of first importance to share the gospel message. We minister first to people's spiritual needs. After this we deal with people's physical needs.

The Lord Jesus spoke for a considerable time. The hour was late and the people were hungry. The disciples tell Him to send the people away. Let them go and find bread for themselves. The Lord Jesus has a very different plan in mind. He tells the disciples to feed them themselves. Such a suggestion shocks the disciples. It would require a huge sum of money to buy bread for all these people. And, even if they had the money where would they find a bakery to make all this bread in this deserted location.

Jesus then tells the disciples to go out and see what food they can find. They return to Him with two small fish and five loaves. The Lord Jesus will use this meagre portion to demonstrate how God can make something out of virtually nothing. He instructs the people to sit in groups of 50 to 100 people. Then thanking God for the provision of this food He begins to break it up and give it to the disciples. It will be their job to share it out among the people. Mark makes a point of telling us that everyone ate as much as they wanted. No one went away hungry or unsatisfied. Even more amazing was when everyone had eaten the disciples were still able to collect twelve baskets of leftovers. Mark tells us that this was a crowd of around 5000 men. This means he is not including women and children in this number. So we are talking here about a crowd probably in excess of ten thousand people.

There are those in the church, particularly from the liberal side who have sought to minimise or try to explain away the miracles. They are uncomfortable with the supernatural and would prefer a bible without the miracles included. They have come up with some frankly very strange ways to explain the feeding of the 5000. My absolute favourite is the "baggy clothes theory." See if you can spot any flaws in this theory. Here is how the theory goes.

Jesus had already determined what He was going to do. Therefore at some time in advance He had sent out the disciples to buy a large quantity of bread and fish. This was stored in a convenient cave in this deserted area.

When it was time to thank God and begin the miracle Jesus stood in front of the cave entrance. Some of the disciples were behind Him in the cave and craftily passed the bread and fish through His robes so that it appeared that He was constantly producing more. In other words it wasn't a miracle but just a very clever deception.

What do you think? Do you buy it? Does it mesh with what scripture tells us? No, of course not. The bible tells us that it was a miracle therefore only a supernatural explanation will suffice. Some may feel uncomfortable by this. But it is something we must accept by faith. The miracle was evidence that Jesus was divine. He, as God alone could create plenty from very little. It shows us

how much He loves us and wants to provide for our needs. It also demonstrates that God chooses to work through us. He could easily have provided food for the people without the “assistance” of the disciples but instead He worked through the agency of the disciples.

Today we move on to consider another famous event in the life of our Lord and saviour. Jesus walking on the water.

오늘의 성경 구절을 더 자세히 살펴보기 전에 지난 시간에 공부한 내용을 복습합니다. 우리는 예수께서 5000 명을 먹이신 매우 찬숙한 기적 이야기를 살펴보았습니다. 제가 이것이 성경 독자들에게 매우 찬숙한 기적이라고 말하는 데에는 그만한 이유가 있습니다. 그 이유는 이 기적이 주 예수의 부활 후에 사복음서에 기록된 유일한 기적이기 때문입니다. 그러므로 복음서를 읽어본 적이 있다면 이 이야기를 잘 알 것입니다. 무슨 일이 있었는지 간단히 살펴보겠습니다. 마가는 제자들이 시련의 사역을 마치고 예수님께로 돌아오는 이야기를 들려줍니다. 그들은 주님의 보냄을 받았고 전도하고 병 고치고 귀신을 쫓아내는 권능을 받았습니다. 이 사역의 시간이 끝나면 그들은 예수님께 다시 보고합니다. 현대적인 용어로 우리는 그들이 보고를 받아야 한다고 말할 것입니다. 그들은 그들이 말하고 본 것과 행한 것을 예수께 보고할 것입니다. 그런 다음 예수님은 앞으로 닥칠 도전에 맞게 자신의 가르침을 조정하실 것입니다. 그러나 군중이 많은 상황에서 예수님은 제자들을 조용한 곳으로 데려가기로 결정하셨습니다. 여기서 그들은 더 잘 쉬고 회복할 수 있을 것입니다. 슬프게도 이것은 아니었다.

[illegible]

[illegible]

45 Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away.

Mark begins by telling us that the Lord Jesus sent the disciples away by boat. No explanation for this is given to us by the author of this gospel. However John gives us some insight which I think explains what is going on. Let me read from chapter 6 of John's gospel.

14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.” 15 Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone. (John 6:14-15)

So what has happened is that some among this large crowd have recognised that Jesus is special. He is certainly a prophet sent by God, and possibly even the long awaited messiah. Therefore they want to seize Him and forcibly make Him king. This of course was not what Jesus was sent to do. So probably He sent the disciples away to either protect them from any uprising, or maybe even prevent them also from getting caught up in this idea. Perhaps they would support the crowd in wanting to crown Jesus king. Remember that they were still learning about who Jesus was and what He wanted them to do. They therefore still possessed a certain degree of immaturity.

He puts them into a boat and tells them to travel to Bethsaida. At the same time He also dismisses the large crowd. Although Jesus loved and had great compassion for people He also knew when it was time for them to go home. There was another reason why He sent them away as we will see in the next verse.

미카는 주 예수께서 제자들을 배로 보내셨다고 말하면서 시작합니다. 이에 대한 설명은 이 복음서의 저자가 우리에게 제공하지 않습니다. 그러나 John 은 무슨 일이 일어나고 있는지 설명할 수 있는 통찰력을 제공합니다. 요한복음 6 장을 읽겠습니다.

14 그 사람들이 예수 행하신 표적을 보고 말하되 이는 참으로 세상에 오실 그 선지자라 하더라 15 그러므로 예수께서 그들이 와서 자기를 역지로 데려다가 왕으로 삼으려 하는 줄 아시고 다시 혼자 산으로 떠나가시니라 (요한복음 6:14-15)

그래서 일어난 일은 이 많은 군중 중 일부가 예수가 특별하다는 것을 인식했다는 것입니다. 그는 확실히 하나님이 보
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ 어찌면 오랫동안 기다려온 메시아일지도 모릅니다. 그러므로 그들은 그를 붙잡아 강제로 왕으로 삼
 고자 합니다. 이것은 물론 예수님이 보내신 일이 아닙니다. 그래서 아마도 그분은 제자들을 반란으로부터 보호하거나

심지어 그들이 이 생각에 사로잡히지 않도록 하기 위해 그들을 보내셨을 것입니다. 아마도 그들은 예수를 왕으로 삼고 자 하는 군중을 지지할 것입니다. 그들은 여전히 예수님이 누구인지 그리고 그분이 그들에게 무엇을 바라셨는지에 대해 배우고 있었다는 것을 기억하십시오. 그러므로 그들은 여전히 어느 정도의 마숙함을 가지고 있었습니다. 그분은 그들을 배에 태우고 벳새다로 가라고 말씀하십니다. 동시에 그분은 또한 많은 무리를 내보내셨습니다. 예수님은 사람들을 사랑하고 동정심이 많으셨지만 언제 그들이 집으로 돌아가야 하는지도 아셨습니다. 다음 구절에서 보겠지만 그분이 그들을 보내신 또 다른 이유가 있었습니다.

46 And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray.

The Lord Jesus sought solitude and peace in order to pray and be in communion with the Father. We all know from our own experiences that praying in busy, chaotic or noisy situations is not easy. So the Lord climbed up into the hills in order to find a nice, quiet place to pray. We must always remember that though Jesus was fully God He was also fully man.

This means that after a long day of teaching and dealing with people He felt exhausted and tired just as we would. Preaching with passion and enthusiasm is draining. Imagine doing it for many hours. So what better remedy than to be alone and in communion with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Mark records Jesus going off at night to pray on three occasions (1:35; 6:46, 14:32-36). When we examine all three we see a similar pattern reoccurring. The pattern is this. When the Lord Jesus finds Himself at a time of great emotional need or crisis He finds a quiet place and goes off alone to pray. He models therefore the perfect example for us to follow.

However, I would add that our prayer time should not only be confined to times of emotional crisis or need. We must cultivate an attitude towards prayer that makes it a vital and necessary part of our everyday lives. I will talk more on this subject later.

Before moving on I want to briefly consider what Mark may be asking his readers to think about. Is he wanting us to think back to the Exodus? To how God rescued or saved His people, and from here make a connection with what Jesus is doing. Let me explain.

주 예수님은 아버지와 기도하고 친교를 나누기 위해 고독과 평화를 찾으셨습니다. 우리 모두는 분주하고 혼란스럽고 시끄러운 상황에서 기도하는 것이 쉽지 않다는 것을 경험을 통해 알고 있습니다. 그래서 주님은 기도하기에 좋고 조용한 장소를 찾기 위해 언덕 위로 올라가셨습니다. 우리는 예수님이 완전한 하나님이셨지만 또한 완전한 사람이었음을 항상 기억해야 합니다. 이것은 사람들을 가르치고 다루느라 긴 하루를 보낸 후에 그분이 우리처럼 지치고 피곤함을 느낀 □□□□□□ □□□□□□. 열정과 열정으로 설교하는 것은 고갈되고 있습니다. 여러 시간 동안 그렇게 한다고 상상해 보십시오. 그러므로 홀로 있으면서 성부 하나님과 성령 하나님과 교제하는 것보다 더 좋은 치료법이 어디 있었습니까? 마가는 예수께서 세 차례에 걸쳐 기도하러 밤에 가셨다고 기록합니다(1:35; 6:46, 14:32-36). 세 가지를 모두 조사하면 비슷한 패턴이 반복되는 것을 볼 수 있습니다. 패턴은 이것입니다. 주 예수님은 큰 정서적 필요나 위기의 때에 자신을 발견하실 때 조용한 곳을 찾으시고 혼자 기도하러 가십니다. 그러므로 그는 우리가 따라야 할 완벽한 모범이 됩니다. 그러나 나는 우리의 기도 시간이 감정적 위기나 도움이 필요한 때에만 국한되어서는 안 된다고 덧붙이고 싶습니다. 우리는 기도를 일상 생활의 중요하고 필요한 부분으로 만드는 태도를 길러야 합니다. □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ 더 이야기하겠습니다. 계속 진행하기 전에 Mark 가 독자들에게 생각하도록 요청한 내용을 간단히 고려하고 싶습니다. 그는 우리가 출애굽을 다시 생각하기를 원하십니까? 하나님께서 어떻게 그의 백성을 구원하셨는지, 그리고 여기에 예수님이 하시는 일과 연결해 보십시오. 설명하겠습니다.

We have just read about the miracle of the feeding of the 5000. There is a clear and obvious connection in this miracle back to Moses in the wilderness. God miraculously provided manna for His people in a desert. In the feeding of the 5000 the Lord Jesus also in an isolated or deserted place provides food for His people. We now get Jesus going up onto a mountain alone in order to meet with God. We see in this a connection with Moses who went up onto Mount Sinai to commune with God. Shortly we are going to see Jesus walking on the sea. Are we perhaps to consider this in the same way that God parted the Red Sea to allow His people to cross. So is Mark asking us to remember how God in the past came to save His people and now here He is doing so again. Let us read on.

우리는 방금 5000 명을 먹이신 기적에 대해 읽었습니다. 이 기적에는 광야에서 모세에게로 돌아가는 분명하고 명백한 연결이 있습니다. 하나님께서는 광야에서 당신의 백성들에게 기적으로 만나를 공급해 주셨습니다. 5000 명을 먹이실 때에도 주 예수님은 외딴 곳이나 황량한 곳에서 그분의 백성들에게 음식을 제공하셨습니다. 이제 우리는 예수님이 하나님을 만나기 위해 혼자 산에 올라가는 것을 봅니다. 우리는 여기에서 하나님과 교제하기 위해 시내 산에 올라간 모세와의 관계를 봅니다. 곧 우리는 예수님께서 바다 위를 걸으시는 것을 보게 될 것입니다. 우리는 이것을 하나님께서 그의 백성들이 건널 수 있도록 홍해를 가르신 것과 같은 방식으로 생각해야 할까요? 그래서 마가는 과거에 하나님께서 어떻게 그의 백성을 구원하러 오셨고 지금 여기에서 다시 그렇게 하고 계신지 기억하라고 요청하고 있습니다. 계속 읽어 봅시다.

47 Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He *was* alone on the land. 48 Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by.

We are to imagine that some time has passed. Jesus had been praying and the disciples have been travelling by boat across the sea. From His vantage point on the mountain the Lord Jesus sees the disciples struggling. Some have questioned how Jesus could see them from a distance of several miles. Was it a supernatural insight? Or perhaps the moon was particularly bright and illuminated the sea. As an aside Jesus special sight is one of the special emphases in Mark's gospel. On a number of occasions His piercing glance is directed at His disciples (1:16, 19; 2:14; 3:34; 8:33; 10:14, 23).

What does Jesus see on this occasion? Well He sees that the disciples are struggling. A strong wind was against them which meant they couldn't use the sail. They are having to rely on rowing with the oars. If you've ever tried rowing a boat you will know that it is not easy. It's even more difficult against a strong wind. So what is the Lord Jesus' response to seeing His disciples in difficulty?

He goes to His disciples. Mark here follows the Roman custom of dividing the night into four parts or watches. He was remember writing to Gentile Christians probably in Rome. The Jews and Greeks divided the night into three watches. So the fourth watch means it was between 3 to 6 am. Jesus comes to them walking ON the water.

Let me say a few things here about how some liberal scholars have tried to explain away this miracles. Remember they do not like the supernatural accounts in scripture.

They therefore seek to explain them away with naturalistic explanations. So how do they try to explain this miracle?

One of the ways is to say that Jesus was walking along the edge of the sea. It was in effect an optical illusion. From a distance, perhaps aided by it being misty or foggy the disciples just thought He was walking on the sea. Another way to try to explain away the miracle is to claim that Jesus

was walking along a sand bar just under the water. Again from a distance, or from the vantage point of the boat it looked as if he was walking on the water. Neither explanation explains the facts given in the account. The disciples were in the middle of the lake not next to the shore. Also some of the disciples were experienced fishermen. They knew the Sea of Galilee well. If there had been a sand bar they would have known about it. Oh look! Jesus is walking on the sand bar. Which just amazingly enough brings Him to our boat.

I looked at the original Greek. It says that Jesus walked on or upon the water (*epi* in Greek). No other explanation will suffice. Jesus was walking on the water.

Mark also tells us interestingly that Jesus was about to “pass them by.” This comment is absent from both Matthew and John's accounts. Our question then is what's going on here? What good would it do for Jesus simply to walk past the disciples while they are struggling and need His help. The reason is that the Lord Jesus wants the disciples to see beyond the sign itself to what it indicates or proves. It serves as a demonstration to the disciples of who Jesus really is. Who after all has full power and control over the natural world; God and God alone. But also we should think carefully about Mark, inspired by the Holy Spirit's word choice. He wants us I think to connect what is happening here with some well known Old Testament passages that also talk about God passing by. (Exodus 33:18-23, 1 Kings 19:11, Job 9:11, Amos 8:2).

우리는 어느 정도 시간이 흘렀다고 상상해야 합니다. 예수님은 기도하셨고 제자들은 배를 타고 바다를 건너고 있었습니다. 어떤 사람들은 예수께서 어떻게 몇 마일 떨어진 곳에서 그들을 볼 수 있었는지 의문을 제기했습니다. 초자연적인 통찰이었습니까? 아니면 달이 유난히 밝아서 바다를 비쳤을지도 모릅니다. 여담으로 예수의 특별한 광경은 마가복음의 특별한 강조점 중 하나입니다. 여러 경우에 그분의 날카로운 눈길은 그분의 제자들을 향하고 있습니다(1:16, 19; 2:14; 3:34; 8:33; 10:14, 23). 이 때 예수님은 무엇을 보십니까? 그분은 제자들이 어려움을 겪고 있는 것을 보십니다. 강한 바람이 그들에게 불어 돛을 그들은 노를 젓는 것에 의존해야 합니다. 배를 젓는 것을 시도해 본 적이 있다면 그것이 쉽지 않다는 것을 알 것입니다. 강한 바람에 맞서는 것은 더욱 어렵습니다. 그러면 제자들이 어려움에 처한 것을 보신 예수님의 반응은 무엇입니까? 그분은 제자들에게 가십니다. 여기서 마가는 밤을 네 부분 또는 사계로 나누는 로마 관습을 따릅니다. 그는 아마도 로마에 있는 아방인 그리스도인들에게 편지를 썼던 것을 기억합니다. 유대인과 그리스인은 밤을 세 시간으로 나누었습니다. 따라서 네 번째 시계는 오전 3 시에서 6 시 사이를 의미합니다. 예수님께서 물 위를 걸어 그들에게 오십니다. 일부 자유주의 학자들이 어떻게 이 기적을 설명하려 했는지에 대해 몇 가지 말씀드리겠습니다. 그들은 성경에 나오는 초자연적인 이야기를 좋아하지 않는다는 것을 기억하십시오. 따라서 그들은 자연주의적 설명으로 그것들을 설명하려고 합니다. 그렇다면 그들은 이 기적을 어떻게 설명하려고 할까요? 그 방법 중 하나는 예수님이 바다가장자리를 따라 걸으셨다고 말하는 것입니다. 그것은 사실상 착시였다. 멀리서 보면 아마도 안개가 자욱해서인지 제자들은 그분이 바다 위를 걷고 계신다고 생각했습니다. 기적을 설명하는 또 다른 방법은 예수가 물 바로 아래 모래톱을 따라 걷고 있었다고 주장하는 것입니다. 다시 멀리서, 또는 배의 유리한 지점에서 보면 그가 물 위를 걷고 있는 것처럼 보였습니다. 두 설명 모두 계정에 제공된 사실을 설명하지 않습니다. 제자들은 호숫가가 아닌 호수 한가운데 있었습니다. 또한 제자들 중에는 노련한 어부들도 있었습니다. 그들은 갈릴리 바다를 잘 알고 있었습니다. 모래톱이 있었다면 그들은 그것에 대해 알았을 것입니다. 오 봐! 예수님께서 모래톱 위를 걷고 계십니다. 그것은 놀랍게도 그분을 우리 배로 데려옵니다. 그리스어 원문을 봤습니다. 그것은 예수가 물 위를 걸었다고 말합니다(그리스어로 에피). 다른 설명으로는 충분하지 않습니다. 예수님은 물 위를 걷고 계셨습니다. 또한 마가는 예수께서 “그들을 지나치려고” 하셨다고 흥미롭게도 알려 줍니다. 이 설명은 마태와 요한의 기록 모두에 없습니다. 그렇다면 우리의 질문은 여기서 무슨 일이 벌어지고 있는가 하는 것입니다. 제자들이 어려움을 겪고 있고 그분의 도움이 필요한 상황에서 단순히 제자들을 지나치셨다면 예수님께 무슨 소용이 있었겠습니까? 그 이유는 주 예수께서 제자들이 표적 그 자체를 넘어 그것이

자신하고 증명하는 것을 보기를 원하셨기 때문입니다. 그것은 예수님이 진정 누구신지를 제자들에게 보여 주는 역할을 합니다. 결국 누가 자연 세계에 대한 완전한 권한과 통제권을 가지고 있습니다. 하나님과 하나님 만 그러나 또한 우리는 성령의 말씀 선택에 의해 영감을 받은 마귀에 대해 주의 깊게 생각해야 합니다. 그는 우리가 여기에서 일어나고 있는 일을 하나님이 지나가신 것에 대해 이야기하는 잘 알려진 구약 성경 구절과 연결하기를 원합니다. (출 33:18-23, 왕상 19:11, 욥 9:11, 암 8:2)

All of these passages talk about how God passed by His people. Or more accurately that God passed by so that His people could see His glory. In Moses case he was not allowed to look upon God. So what is Mark's point? In the past although God cared and had compassion for His people it was always from a distance. God is perfectly holy and we are sinners. This meant that human beings could not come directly into God's presence. Even to look upon His perfection would be too much. But now in Jesus, God was truly with us. He is after all God with us. So Mark wants his readers to take two things away. Firstly that this is God walking across the water. Secondly that this is a new or different way that we are going to interact or be with God. Let us see how the disciples react.

이 모든 구절은 하나님이 어떻게 그의 백성을 지나치셨는지에 대해 이야기합니다. 또는 더 정확하게는 하나님께서 그의 백성들이 그의 영광을 볼 수 있도록 지나가셨다는 것입니다. 모세의 경우 그는 하나님을 바라보는 것이 허락되지 않았습니다. 그렇다면 Mark 의 요점은 무엇입니까? 과거에 하나님은 그의 백성을 돌보아 주시고 긍휼히 여기셨지만 항상 멀리서 오셨습니다. 하나님은 완벽하게 거룩하시며 우리는 죄인입니다. 이것은 인간이 하나님의 임재 안으로 직접 올 수 없다는 것을 의미했습니다. 그분의 완전함을 바라보는 것조차 지나칠 것입니다. 그러나 이제 예수님 안에서 하나님은 참으로 우리와 함께 하셨습니다. 그는 결국 우리와 함께 하시는 하나님이십니다. 따라서 Mark 는 독자들이 두 가지를 제거하기를 원합니다. 첫째, 이것은 물 위를 걷는 하나님입니다. 둘째, 이것은 우리가 하나님과 상호 작용하거나 존재하게 되는 새롭거나 다른 방식입니다. 제자들이 어떻게 반응하는지 봅시다.

49 And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; 50 for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

Mark notes that "all" the disciples "saw" Jesus. Why emphasise this point? It's because they were all eyewitnesses. It was not just one or two who saw the Lord. This same principle holds true today. The more credible eyewitnesses we have to an event the stronger the evidence. In this case they all clearly saw a "figure" moving across the water. Mark also tells us what they thought they were seeing. They thought they were seeing a phantom, a spectre or a ghost. This was remember a very superstitious age and it was commonly believed by ancient peoples that ghosts existed. Interestingly, in Jewish literature when ghost apparitions are mentioned it is frequently in connection to the sea or water. The sea in particular was associated in the Jewish mind with being an untamed chaotic place. A region where spirits roamed. Let us speak for a moment on the phenomenon of ghosts.

What is a ghost? Generally, a ghost is considered to be the spirit of a departed person.

Today many are rightly sceptical about the existence of ghost. Do ghosts exist? What does the bible say on the matter? If we consider a ghost to be the spirit of a human being who has died and is now returning to "haunt" the earth. Then ghosts do not exist. Scripture tells us that human beings live once, then die and face judgment (Hebrew 9:27). Following this judgement the person's soul/spirit is sent either to heaven or hell. There is no second option of returning to earth as a ghost. However, if we think of a ghost as being a spirit being (an angel or a demon) then clearly they do exist. Let's get back to our account.

The disciples believe what they are seeing is a ghost. Was the Lord Jesus glowing, or surrounded by light? The bible does not tell us but it does tell us about the reaction His appearance caused. The disciples were fearful and troubled.

This fear however subsided when Jesus arrived alongside the boat and speaks to the disciples. Let us consider what He says. First He tells them to be of “good cheer.” There is no longer any need to feel down or despondent. Secondly comes a self-disclosure. Jesus reveals His true identity to them. He tells them, “It is I” or “I am.” In Greek this is *ego emi* and it literally means, “I am,” or “I exist.” Now Jesus could have just said, “It's me Jesus” so why did He choose this particular expression. It's because He wants to echo what God said when He revealed Himself to Moses as the burning bush.

And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” (Exod 3:14)

So the Lord Jesus here is revealing who exactly He is. Finally, He encourages them to “take heart” or “be courageous.” There is no need to fear, the one who brought all things into existence in present with you. What great comfort we should draw from this. At times of despair and distress God is always present with us. Let us continue.

PPT – verse 51

51 Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.

As the Lord Jesus went up to and then enters the boat the strong wind ceases. You may remember from Matthew's gospel that at this point Peter asked Jesus to let him walk on the water. Mark does not include this detail. Why might this be? After all tradition says that Mark got his information from Peter. I can think of two possible reasons. Perhaps Peter was a little embarrassed or ashamed about what happened. Maybe he didn't want Mark to include it. Or perhaps Peter was being humble. He did, for a short time walk on the water. Maybe he didn't want his modest success to overshadow the importance of the story. The real story is what this reveals to us about the Lord Jesus. Its not about Peter walking on the water.

The disciples are, not surprisingly amazed at what has just happened. Mark really emphasises this point. They are literally amazed beyond amazement. This is the fourth time that Mark has mentioned their amazement at what Jesus has done (2:12; 3:21; 5:42). However as we will see Mark concludes the account by telling us that they had not really understood what they had seen previously, and it was this lack of understanding that had led to their fear.

PPT – verse 52

52 For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.

Often the disciples come across as being rather dim witted and slow. When we read about their thoughts and actions we wonder why they could not put all the pieces together and make the connections. Why were they unable to understand where the signs and miracles pointed.

We forget that we have the benefit full picture.

They were having things revealed slowly piece by piece in real time. Here Mark tells us that they had not really understood the previous miracle.

He is of course referring to the recent feeding of the 5000. The disciples had all been eyewitnesses of that miracle. In fact, Jesus had quite intentionally included them in it. They were sent out to find food. They brought the food to Him. They then distributed the food to the people, and when everyone had eaten they collected the left-overs. So they had seen with their own eyes Jesus

multiply this small portion of food and feed thousands.

What should their conclusion have been? How should they have thought about Jesus from this point on? Surely that He had the power and authority to do all things. If he could produce food from nothing then surely He could protect them in a storm. But sadly they still lacked spiritual insight and receptive hearts. They had not learned the valuable lessons from before. Their hearts were still hard. When he says that their hearts were hardened he is referring to their understanding and proper reasoning being impaired. They were unable to come to a proper reasoned understanding of what Jesus had done, and what this said about Him. What a sad truth Mark reveals. Even after being with Jesus and seeing all the miracles and signs they still lacked real faith.

Next week Lord willing we will conclude chapter 6.

종종 제자들은 다소 어리석고 느린 사람으로 보입니다. 그들의 생각과 행동에 대해 읽을 때 우리는 왜 그들이 모든 조각을 맞추고 연결을 만들지 못했는지 궁금합니다. 왜 그들은 표적과 기적이 가리키는 곳을 이해할 수 없었습니까? 우리는 이점 전체 그림을 가지고 있다는 것을 잊습니다. 그들은 실시간으로 조금씩 조금씩 드러나고 있었다. 여기서 마가는 그들이 이전의 기적을 실제로 이해하지 못했다고 말합니다. 물론 그는 최근에 5000 명을 먹인 일을 언급하고 있습니다. 제자들은 모두 그 기적을 목격했습니다. □□, 예수님은 의도적으로 그들을 여기에 포함시키셨습니다. 그들은 음식을 찾기 위해 파견되었습니다. 그들은 그분께 음식을 가져왔습니다. 그런 다음 그들은 음식을 사람들에게 나누어 주고 모두가 먹고 남은 것을 모았습니다. 그래서 그들은 예수께서 이 작은 음식을 배가시켜 수천 명을 먹이는 것을 그들의 눈으로 직접 보았습니다. 그들의 결론은 어때야 했습니까? 이때부터 그들은 예수님을 어떻게 생각해야 했을까요? 모든 일을 행할 능력과 권세를 가지셨음이 분명합니다. 그가 무에서 음식을 생산할 수 있다면 분명히 폭풍 속에서 그들을 보호할 수 있을 것입니다. 그러나 슬프게도 그들은 여전히 영적 통찰력과 수용적인 마음이 부족했습니다. 그들은 이전에서 귀중한 교훈을 배우지 못했습니다. 그들의 마음은 여전히 단단했습니다. 그들의 마음이 강퍅하여졌다고 하신 것은 그들의 이해력과 합당한 추리가 손상되었음을 말씀하신 것입니다. 그들은 예수께서 하신 일과 이것이 그에게 대해 말한 바를 합리적으로 이해할 수 없었습니다. 마크가 밝히는 슬픈 진실 예수님과 함께 있으면서 모든 기적과 표적을 본 후에도 그들은 여전히 진정한 믿음이 부족했습니다. 다음 주에 주님의 뜻대로 6 장을 마칠 것입니다.

Things to think about

I have three comments to make on today's passage.

오늘 본문에 세 가지 의견이 있습니다.

1 The necessity of prayer

How important is prayer in your spiritual life? I hope that all of you cultivate a regular habit of prayer. Whatever form it takes I hope it is something you do daily. The Lord Jesus was a man of prayer. He followed a particular pattern of rising early and going to a quiet or secluded place to pray. I see a great deal of sense in this. It is good to start the day off by having a quiet time of communion with God. It's appropriate to begin the day by re-devoting or re-dedicating yourself to Him. To then putting the day and all that will transpire in His mighty hands. It's a habit I have cultivated for some time. In fact if for some reason I cannot pray and read the bible in the morning the whole day seems off. I know that I have not started the day as I should. So I encourage you to set aside time each day to devote yourself to prayer. You may not be a morning person, so you may carve out another part of your day for prayer. Remember if the Lord Jesus understood and valued the importance of prayer how much more do we need to appreciate the necessity of prayer.

당신의 영적 생활에서 기도는 얼마나 중요합니까? 여러분 모두가 규칙적인 기도 습관을 기르기를 바랍니다. 어떤 형 □□□□ □□ □□ □□□□ □□□□ 주 예수님은 기도의 사람이셨습니다. 그는 일찍 일어나 조용하거나 한적한 곳으로 가서 기도하는 특별한 패턴을 따랐습니다. □□□□□□ □□ □□□□ □□□□. 하루를 조용히 하나님과 교제하

[illegible]

2 Jesus knows about our storms

The disciples were having great difficulty on the Sea of Galilee. The wind was against them, and they were battling to make any progress. Doesn't that description often mirror our Christian lives. For every one step forward we stumble back two. We all have storms in our lives. Periods or seasons when times are hard. Relationship issues, financial worries, troubles at work. It is at these times that we need to put down the oars and look out for Jesus. How often do we continue to battle on when instead we could invite Jesus to come into the boat of our lives and ease our troubles. The Lord Jesus knows about our storms, and is ready and willing to come to our aid. Let us look out for Him, beckon to Him and welcome Him when He comes.

제자들은 갈릴리 바다에서 큰 어려움을 겪고 있었습니다. 바람이 그들을 거스르고 그들은 전진하기 위해 싸우고 있었습니다. 그 묘사는 종종 우리 그리스도인의 삶을 반영하지 않습니까? 한 걸음 앞으로 나아갈 때마다 우리는 두 걸음 뒤로 비틀거립니다. 우리 모두의 삶에는 폭풍이 있습니다. 힘든 시기나 계절, 관계 문제, 재정 걱정, 직장에서의 문제. 이럴 때 우리는 노를 내려놓고 예수님을 바라보아야 합니다. 우리 삶의 배에 오셔서 우리의 문제를 해결하시도록 예수님을 초대할 수 있을 때 얼마나 자주 우리는 계속해서 싸우고 있습니까? 주 예수님은 우리의 폭풍에 대해 아시고 기꺼이 우리를 도우러 오실 준비가 되어 있습니다. 그분을 바라보고 손잡고 그분이 오시면 영접합니다.

3 The danger of a hard heart

How is your heart? I trust its working well and doing the job God intended it to do. Of course when the bible talks about a hard heart it isn't talking about the organ pumping blood around your body. When the Bible talks about the heart it means the hub of human personality. It is talking about the things we ordinarily ascribe to the "mind." So thoughts, reason, joy and understanding are all products of the heart.

So given this it is easy to see how a hardened heart can seriously impact a persons ability to perceive and understand. The disciples had seen an amazing miracle but for whatever reason they were unable to properly process what had happened. Even as mature Christians we can over time develop a hard heart. There are lots of reasons why. Perhaps it is pride or arrogance. I know it all, there is nothing new for me to learn. Maybe we are uncomfortable to be challenged. We like the way things are and are reluctant to face a new reality. It could be a sin issue. Our long term devotion to a particular sin has made us hard hearted. We may have a hard heart due to hardships, disappointments or setbacks.

Obviously having a hard heart is not a good thing. It is a barrier to us really understanding and growing in faith. A hard heart slows our process of sanctification. It means we are not as advanced as we should be on our Christian walk. Fortunately there is a remedy. The best way to get rid of your hard heart is to repent and confess. To take your issues before God and ask for His transforming hand to fall upon you. To ask Him to help you really be able to see, understand and reason correctly. To ask Him to minister to your heart and help you grow and mature in your faith.

당신의 마음이 어떻게 됩니까?

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