

Mark 6:48

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.

When the disciples were in the storm and rowing all night but could not get to where Jesus had told them to go. They could have just turned around and went back home, following the storm, which would have made for easier rowing. Yet, they didn't turn around. They continued to row, being obedient to what the Lord had told them to do. And they did not give up. Then Jesus walked up to them on the water in the midst of the storm to them to get them to the other side, which He did.

We have all gone through storms in life and we will be experiencing more storms this year and the rest of our lives here on this earth. Even Jesus said.

- † **Matthew 10:18** *You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.*
- † **Matthew 10:22** *And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.*
- † **Matthew 24:9** *Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.*

“***You will be***”, not you might be, or you may experience this once or twice in your lifetime. But “We will be” persecuted, judged wrongly, walk through storms in life, hated by non-believers, suffer tribulation, all for His (Jesus’) name sake.

Peter, who walked with Jesus for three years tells us the same thing.

- † **1 Peter 4:12** *Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;*

Think about that, Peter walked with Jesus for three years, and even though he did, he and all the disciples still experienced the storms in life while walking with Jesus, and even after Jesus rose from the dead and went to heaven. So we should not be surprised when we walk through storms as well, just as Peter had said.

But as we read of these trials they went through, and as I said earlier, they did not give up, they did not turn around in the midst of the storm and say, “Forget it, this is too hard.” No, instead we read that Jesus “***saw them straining at rowing***”. Jesus didn't walk up to them telling them that

they were rowing incorrectly or ask them why they had not gotten to the other side like He told them to do. No, it clearly says that Jesus got into the boat, in the storm with them.

† **Mark 6:51** *Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.*

If you think about it, Jesus will get into the boat with us as we walk through storms in life, and we should have the same reaction that they did, “*they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.*” Sure, Jesus may remove the storm like He did here with the disciples, or He may just ride out the storm with us, to get us to where He wants us to be. But the key is that the Lord is with us, therefore we know that we can make it through the storms in life and to the place He wants us to be.

† **Hebrews 13:5b-6** *For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*

† **Psalm 71:5-6 (NLT2)** *O Lord, you alone are my hope. I've trusted you, O LORD, from childhood. Yes, you have been with me from birth; from my mother's womb you have cared for me. No wonder I am always praising you!*

† **Habakkuk 3:19a** *The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.*

† **Ephesians 4:1-3** *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*