

## Matt 8:23-26

*Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.*

Sometimes we give a false impression of what following Jesus really means. We will tell people that their problems will all go away. Some use money as an incentive for becoming a Christian, saying that you can be financially set if you just follow Jesus. We give people all sorts of reason to become a Christian, but the truth is that we as Christians still have problems just like everyone else does.

We lose our jobs or our family members. We have little money and sometimes wonder where we will get our next meal. We are made fun of and excluded from functions because the world does not want us around. But you know what, I wouldn't trade following Jesus for anything that this world has to offer, and neither would the disciples. Let's look at today's verses again.

† *Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him.*

It's the same thing that we do, we choose to follow Jesus just as the disciples did.

† *And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"*

Yet even though they followed Jesus, things still happened, and they ran into a storm, just like we run into storms in life. The disciples were afraid and cried out to Jesus for help, just like we do. Therefore, we do the same thing, we have problems, we cry out to Jesus as well. Sure, the world does to, but only in times of severe trouble, and until the storm is over, then they ignore Jesus until they need Him again.

Yet we cry out to Jesus all the time, not just for help but also in praise and worship and thankfulness, at least as a Christian we should be. If we only cry out or pray to Jesus when we are in trouble, we have the same relationship with Jesus that the world has with Him.

Finally:

† *Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.*

Jesus answered their prayers and helped them. That is one of the cool things about being a Christian, because we can call out to God anytime and He hears us and helps us.

So no, walking with Jesus is not always a bed of roses, and our bills don't always get paid miraculously. We still lose our jobs, we still have break-ups, we still lose loved ones, we are still poor (financially). But Jesus puts it best when He asks.

† **Matt 16:26** *For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?*

Have you chosen the temporary things of this life over Jesus? If you have then you are missing out on the best that is waiting for us in Heaven, and that's to be with the One Who helped us out here on this earth when we cried out to Him, JESUS!

The disciples trusted Jesus to help them. Will you?

† **Psalms 37:39-40** *But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;  
He is their strength in the time of trouble.  
And the LORD shall help them and deliver them;  
He shall deliver them from the wicked,  
And save them,  
Because they trust in Him.*