

Edward Christian Church

September 17, 2017

When the Bottom Drops Out -pt1

Matthew 14:22-33

“Assurances We Can Count On”

Storms= Violent Disturbance in Atmosphere...

- **Causing Damage to Any Thing/ One in it's Path**
- **Classified=*Physical, Mental, Emotional, Spiritual***

Origin...

1- Satan ..Purpose to “Destroy”

- **John 10a ...*Thief cometh...steal, kill, destroy***

2- God ..Purpose to “Build Up”

- **John 10b ...*But I AM Come..life..more abound..***
 - ❑ **Always in Control -*Great God Jehovah***
 - ❑ **Always a Lesson - *Search the Purpose***

Matthew 14

This Passage Speaks of Unstable Times...

- Vision = Obscure
- Footing = Unsure
- Security = Insecure
 - Ship - *“Collective”*
 - Peter - *“Individual”*

The Bottom had Dropped Out ...

...2 Storms that Day at Same Time

- Circumstances on Outside
- Disrupted Peace on Inside

Matthew 14

In These Times...

▪ **It is Useless to...**

...*Focus on the Unsure Things*

Brings Fear, Frustration, No Hope

▪ **It is Useful to...**

...*Focus on the Sure Things*

Calms Fear, Frustration, Brings Hope

There Were 5 Things...

...that Were Sure Things

Let Us Focus on Them

Five Assurances in Our Storms

#1- The Lord Brought Them There (22)

“Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.”

□ No Accident, No Blind Move

The Timing of the Storm

Jesus knew:

- **Opportunity was Present**
- **Storm was About to Strike**
- **It was Test Time after the Lesson**

The Storms of Life Reveal...

God's Great Love for Us!

**He Knows that Some Things Can Only...
...Be Learned in the Storm!!!**

**During These Seasons...
Remember...**

- **James 1:12 (KJV)**

¹² Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Six Purposes for Storms in Our Life:

✓ **Cleansing** - *gets our attention*

67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word... 71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.

✓ **Companionship** - *intimate relationship*

1 Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, Until these calamities have passed by.

-Psa 57:1

✓ **Conformity** - *conforming our image*

Rom 8:29- *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

Six Purposes for Storms in Our Life:

- ✓ **Comfort** - *God doesn't always just do something **IN** us, but often He does something **THROUGH** us. if you want to be a **Blessing** to others, you have to be **Broken**. A vessel that's unbroken has very limited use. 2 Cor 1:3-4*
- ✓ **Convictions** – *Pain Solidifies your **Conviction** that God is **Sufficient** / will **Take Care** of you.*
- ✓ **Change** - *Paul is a great **Example** of **Change** when God got his Attention on **Damascus Road**.*