

JESUS IS PRAYING FOR YOU:  
GOD'S PROMISES THROUGH THE STORMS

GOD'S PROMISE

"Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

Romans 8:34

MY PROMISE

I am encouraged because Jesus is speaking in my favor.

Bible Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

There is no such thing as, "life has no storms." In fact, the only time when there will no longer be any storms is when we are united with the risen Savior in glory. After having celebrated Holy Week, this is something that we should keep in mind.

For what reason did Jesus die and raised from the dead? The answer is simple. He died and was raised from the dead so that we could defeat the storms of life here and forever.

Everyone who has gone through literal "storms" (hurricanes, earthquakes, flooding, or shipwrecks), can affirm that in the middle of those storms, they felt impotent, vulnerable and without hope.

Today we will learn that we have an intercessor who will not allow the storms to put out our hope.

JESUS TELLS US TO GET INTO THE BOAT – Matthew 14:22

In life, we can say, "we have already gotten into the boat, now we must continue forward." This declaration is simply a way of saying that our life has no reverse. We cannot "undo our being born." We cannot "go back." We cannot "impede the steps of life." It is impossible. We are already on the way.

Jesus' order to his disciples is a metaphor of life. He told them to get in the boat. In other words, "we must go to the other side." That is inevitable. We are going to cross over. We will see each other again. BUT, "there is a storm coming, and one way or another, we must face it."  
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If you have thought about getting out of the boat, Jesus tells you to get back in.

JESUS PRAYS - Matthew 14:23

Jesus could have said, "Wait here for me while I attend to the multitude then I will be back." Or He could have said, "I was going to pray for a while, but instead I will do that later since we have to go to the other side." However He did not. He went up the mountain side to pray alone. These are the moments in which we would like to know exactly what He prayed. What we do know is that He did pray. The character of prayer and intercession of Jesus are confirmed in the Scriptures. It is a natural thing to think then what He prayed in John 17 is a model of how He prayed for His disciples on this occasion. He knew what was coming and He covered them in prayer.

If there is something that we can be sure of is that He is our great Intercessor. There is no doubt about that.

#### THE STORM COMES AND BRINGS WITH IT CONTRARY WINDS – Matthew 14:24

There are times when the same phrases of the Bible cause us to pause in our lives. A natural phenomenon can be a spiritual example. When it says that the boat was beaten because the winds were "contrary", a great truth has been told.

The storms of life often come because they bring "contrary winds." We can name those winds as battles, sickness, disillusion, things not expected, etc. Let me say that those storms will continue to come to our lives. However, do not be afraid, Jesus prays for us!

#### JESUS IS ON THE WAY – Matthew 14:25-27

Jesus not only intercedes but also acts. In His role as Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ not only prays in our favor, but He Himself acts on our behalf. He said to them, that He would see them on the other side, but because of the storm, He had to change His routine and intervened supernaturally.

Jesus intercession in our favor has more to do with His intervention than good intentions. He did not say, "I hope you make it alright." He prayed for them and intervened because the storm was bigger than what they could have resolved alone. He does the same for us.

He is not a ghost. He is Christ. It is not luck. He is Christ. It is not a coincidence. It is Christ. Please DO NOT BE AFRAID! IT IS HE!

#### WALK, EVEN THOUGH THE WIND IS STRONG – Matthew 14:28-31

Peter dares to ask to go where Jesus was. Remember, the storm is still raging. When Jesus invites him to come (it is a kind of intercession, because if Jesus is inviting, He will be responsible that everything be just fine) He guarantees that he is not going to drown even though the storm is still very active. Peter confesses that "the wind" was apparently more powerful than the promise that Jesus had made.

We will all be confronted with moments in which we will have to decide if the “wind is more powerful than Jesus.

Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him in the middle of the storm. This image should be recorded in our mind. In the middle of the storm, even if I go under, Jesus is at my side to not allow me to drown. Even though my faith is little and even though He would have to exhort me by saying, “Why did you doubt?” Even in my doubts, my Lord will not allow me to drown!

THE STORM WILL END AND YOU WILL GO BACK TO CELEBRATE THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD – Matthew 14:32-33

The storm could have ended when Peter stepped out of the boat, or when Jesus entered into the sea, or when Peter began to drown. However, it ended when Jesus reminds us that we should not doubt even though the storm is raging!

We have been guaranteed something; the storm will end! When it does end, take the time to remember that your Lord is truly the Son of God (a Messianic title). Because He is who He says He is, His intercession and His intervention will always be precise and on time. There is nothing to fear!