

A Fourth Watch Miracle

Pastor Glynn Davis

December 9, 2007

(Mark 6:48 KJV) And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

(Mark 6:49 KJV) But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

Sermon Title: A Fourth Watch Miracle

Introduction: The disciples have been on the Sea of Galilee since early evening. The storm has all but exhausted their efforts. It is now the fourth watch, which is between 3-6 am. As far as they were concerned Jesus was back on the shore where they left Him.

(Mark 6:47 KJV) And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land.

(Mark 6:48 KJV) And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

1. This miracle was for them and for all of us who have ever endured the storms of life.

For those of us who thought the miracle we needed would come in the first watch, certainly by the 2nd or 3rd. But here it was the fourth and in the darkest hour, they see what they believe to be a spirit or a ghost.

(Mark 6:49 KJV) But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

In difficult times, times of discouragement and fear, times when we feel abandoned, ghost parade in our minds. Past, or dead things that should have no ability to affect us walk on the seas of our storms.

It seems that the most difficult time to see Jesus or to recognize His presence are in the long nights of chronic, strenuous, backbreaking efforts that appear to be fruitless.

When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they did not recognize Him. What was their answer, their salvation, was rejected as a spirit of some long lost sailor who had died in a similar situation.

(Mark 6:50 KJV) For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

When the Lord reveals Himself at these moments, we seem to have little ability to discern who He is. There were many other methods that Jesus could have used to bring about their miracle, but He wanted them to see Him walking on the water of their storm.

2. In every storm we should look for Him, He is there, walking on the water

The entire evening began with a wrong assumption. The disciples assumed that because He did not get into the boat with them, that they were alone, that He was not with them. They didn't know He could move through time and space, could work a miracle even when He was not physically in their midst.

(Mark 6:51 KJV) And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

3. There are four things God wanted the disciples to know, those four things He wants us to know.

1. Don't allow storms and difficult times to discourage you
Be of good cheer, don't lose hope!
2. Don't be afraid
The night ghosts of despair are not what they seem to be
3. Always know that He is present in every situation we face
I will never leave you nor forsake you. He can move through time and space. Doesn't have to be present to do His work.

4. Your miracle might not look like what you expected.

Miracles appear out of the most difficult and strange occasions

4. A Fourth Watch Miracle

Unexpected unusual manifestation

Finding Jesus In A Storm

When He Walks On The Water

A Miracle In Your Storm

When your miracle shows up not looking like a miracle.

When what seems to be the tormenting spirit of past situations turns out to be your miracle

A miracle in the 4th watch doesn't always begin by looking like a miracle