

Keep the Master in the Boat

“That day when the evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quite! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples. “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” Mark 4:35-41

An identical event that we have discussed before is what we will review today from the gospel according to Mark. Here, we are standing at the bank of the lake watching what is going on. The weather is nice and the atmosphere is good. The lake water is calm, blue, with the sunset reflecting on it. At the bank porch we can see crowds of people and boats anchored. Boats with different shapes and appearances, but they are more or less the same. As the crowds ride the boats, the people start their journey. Good looking boats where smart people ride, sail along the calm water of the lake. Everything is well and perfect; boats build by strong wood, and people are handsome and confident. Every appearance gives a secure feeling. And the boats race with each other to reach the opposite side of the lake, until a strong wind starts to reign over the lake. Which of the boat will be saved from this wind? And which one of them will reach the next coast of the lake?

The boat is our living territory at home, at office, at school, or the city we live in. The water is the unsecure and dangerous environment we are in contact with and what surrounds us. It is the part of the world that threatens one life. It is the economic instability, emotional liability, the wars, troubles and any part of life that we cannot deal with.

The boats and the waters are the things we see but there is something unseen. In fact, we should keep aside all what we see around us, and we have to understand and believe the unseen. There are two kingdoms in the unseen world: the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. The Kingdom of light that belongs to God is the kingdom of holiness and righteousness. This kingdom will stand forever, and

those who belong to it will have eternal life with the king who is Jesus. The second Kingdom is the kingdom of darkness manifested by all types of wickedness and decay in the seen world. Its king is Satan, and all the demons that belong to him are the soldiers whose destiny is the eternal fire.

If we go back to the previous scene of the lake, the wind represents the kingdom of darkness. The arrows of the evil one cause worries, all types of sickness (e.g. inflammation, tumors, etc.), depression, quarrels, troubles, addictions, accidents, calamities, which aim to steal, kill, destroy, and above all to cause death.

How can we face the wind? If we trust in the wood of the boat or if we trust the small life-saving boats that are within our boats, they are all useless, yet become like idols to us. **“They say to wood, ‘You are my father,’ and to stone, ‘You gave me birth.’ They have turned their backs to me and not their faces; yet when they are in trouble, they say, ‘Come and save us!’” (Jeremiah 2:27)**

“Lord Jesus, come and save us.” So, what we have to do is to keep the King of the Kingdom of light with us in the boat. He is Jesus the Saviour and Lord. You may ask, **“Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”** He is the Son of God, the Son of the most high. He has the power and the authority over everything in heaven and on earth. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth all demons shudder and flee away from those who bear His name; Sickneses are healed, people are freed, and relationships are mended. His name is Jesus. But how can we invite Him and keep Him with us in the boat? **“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:10)**

My Dear and Beloved: “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” I encourage you to clear your boat from any idols or statues, false religions or doctrines, costumes or beliefs, and keep only Jesus with you in the boat. Listen to Him, to what He is saying to you. **“Because he loves me, “says the Lord, “I will rescue Him; I will protect Him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in troubles. I will deliver him and honour him. With a long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.” (Psalm 91:14-16) Jesus Loves You.**

My Prayer: Lord when I am afraid I will put my trust in you. I commit my life and my ways in your hand. Lord me in the way that you wants me to move in your ways and paths, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.