

**I. AFTER THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND**

**A. That prophet (vs. 14)**

1. They accused John the Baptist of being “that” prophet
2. Very special term pointing only to the Messiah
  - a. Islam will try to fool you into thinking it is Mohammed
  - b. But Deuteronomy 18:15 – “The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;”
  - c. Has to be a Jew from their midst
3. These people rightly perceived His title but denied His purpose
  - a. Grounded on a misunderstanding of Messiah as King
  - b. Wanted to nullify the curse of eating bread by sweat of their face
  - c. Hated the Romans and desired to shake of Rome’s yoke
  - d. Sought to disturb the peace with active revolution
  - e. Ignored the mind of Christ – take Him by force!

**B. His Deity**

1. He knew what they wanted
  - a. Declares His deity – He knew their heart
  - b. One could almost say He had “discerned the thoughts and intents of their hearts”
  - c. That would make sense, as He IS the Word of God
  - d. Revelation 19:21 – “And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”
  - e. Amazing how the Bible all fits together isn’t it?
2. This also declares His humility
  - a. He knew they wanted to make Him King
  - b. But he dismissed the multitude and went into a mountain to pray
  - c. Why? Because He had His Father’s work to FINISH!
3. To make the heavenly King earthly
  - a. One commentator put it this way: An earthly crown on the head of Jesus Christ would be like painting over a ruby. Like varnishing the finest gold.
  - b. Cults are known by four things.
    - i. Maximizing emotions
    - ii. Minimizing Scripture
    - iii. Deifying Man
    - iv. Humanizing God
  - c. Oh! That we would raise His name higher!
    - i. The throne He wants is your heart!

ii. It is NOT wrong to make Him ruler of your life

C. His Crown

1. Don't you know - He came not to be crowned with a crown of gold
2. But a crown of THORNS!
  - a. Not a tawdry political kingdom
  - b. NO! He came as King of Kings and Lord of Lords
  - c. And ETERNAL throne is His forever in Heaven!

D. His Orders

1. Matthew 14:23 – “And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.”
2. Mark 6:46 – “And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.”
3. The context here is He constrained His disciples to go.
  - a. He made them obliged
  - b. He compelled them
  - c. Have you ever been compelled by God to do something?
  - d. Breaking CDs and then called to go with Bro. Fite

E. His Lesson

1. He told them to cross over to Capernaum
  - a. Just crossing a small bay to a nearby city
  - b. A group of experienced fishermen (from their youth up)
  - c. They knew how fast storms could rise on the Sea of Galilee
2. He presented His disciples and object lesson
  - a. And we can learn it too
  - b. And stay dry while we do it!
3. You NEED Him in your Boat

## II. DARKNESS WITHOUT THE LIGHT IN THE BOAT

A. It was now dark (vs. 17)

1. I studied this – can't say if it was night or not
2. Could be that the storm was so all-encompassing that it shut out the sun
3. Vs. 22 says the day following, but that may not mean vs. 17 was night
4. The point: Darkness can fall at any time!

B. Dark (the word has a connotation of enveloping darkness)

1. A THICK darkness
2. Like a blanket covering / almost like a blindness
3. Like deep in a cave (example)

C. But they understood the problem! (vs. 17)

1. Jesus was not come to them!
2. They knew why they labored under oppressive darkness
3. Because the Light of the World was not in the boat!

4. The spiritual darkness of this world wants to rob you of the Light
- D. Get this: Though it was dark, they could see Him! (vs. 19)
  1. Turn your eyes upon Jesus! Look full in His wonderful face.
  2. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
  3. In the LIGHT of His Glory and Grace!
  4. Remember: We walk by FAITH and not by SIGHT

### III. FEAR WITHOUT THE PRINCE OF PEACE IN THE BOAT

- A. The sea arose (vs. 18)
  1. Think of going through a hurricane in a small boat!
  2. This was a GREAT wind that blew
  3. And they were afraid (vs. 19)
- B. It was dark (vs. 17)
  1. And Jesus was not standing there next to them
  2. Were you ever afraid of the dark?
    - a. Not enough to know that your parents were just across the hall
    - b. You wanted them right there
  3. And they were afraid.
- C. They didn't recognize Him (vs. 20)
  1. He had to announce Himself
    - a. Sometimes we get too preoccupied with the cares of this world
    - b. Sometimes we get so fearful that we fail to see Him
  2. They were afraid but He was there to calm their fears!
    - a. He walked on WATER to get there
    - b. When we are in distress, He can do the miraculous
    - c. When we need Him, He can move heaven and earth
    - d. But it will happen in His will and in His timing
  3. Isaiah 26:3 – “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”
  4. My favorite hymn – Like a river glorious, is God's perfect peace.

### IV. HELPLESSNESS WITHOUT HIS PRESENCE IN THE BOAT

- A. Matthew and Mark tell us that the wind was contrary (vs. 18)
  1. That means “opposing”
  2. But the wind is no problem for the Lord
    - a. Job 9:8 – “Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.”
    - b. Proverbs 30:4 – “Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?”

3. Psalm 107:23 - 29
  - a. They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
  - b. These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.
  - c. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.
  - d. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.
  - e. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.
  - f. Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.
  - g. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.
- B. 25-30 Furlongs (vs. 19)
  1. A furlong is about an eighth of a mile.
  2. They were out in the middle, 2 or 3 miles from any shore
  3. Rowing, rowing, rowing
- C. He changed everything!
  1. They had all row but no go!
  2. But then they were suddenly at Capernaum! (vs. 21)
  3. I can't explain it – but that's what the Bible says
  4. All that human effort wasted – not tied into the power source
  5. He is the Vine and I'm the branch, His banner over me is love
- D. Shows His saving power
  1. Peter in other Gospels (read it in Matthew 14:24-32)
  2. He says if it's really you, bid me come unto thee on the water
  3. The Lord said, "Come."
  4. Now when he got his eyes off of Jesus and began slipping down...
    - a. He prayed no high prayer
    - b. No great omnipotent all-knowing God with all power of creation in thine hand...
    - c. He said three words, "Lord, save me!"
    - d. Not flowery – he got down to business
  5. Sometimes we don't even know how to pray when we are in distress
  6. Romans 8:26 – "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."
- E. We need Him in our Boat

## V. GET HIM INTO YOUR BOAT

- A. Get other things out
  1. Saved Person: Is there room for Jesus in your boat?
  2. Maybe we need to throw some things overboard

3. Think about that boat
    - a. It might have been Peter's boat
    - b. Did it still have the net and fishing gear stowed away?
    - c. Would it be the same boat he used when he said, "I go a fishing"?
- B. Lost Person:
1. You need Jesus
    - a. You want out of the darkness, He is the Light
    - b. You are tired of living in fear, He is the Prince of Peace
    - c. You are powerless to save yourself and He alone is Savior
  2. Be Saved today.