

Speak to the Storm

Mark 4:35-41 (Jesus Speaks to the the Storm)

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Giving Honor to God the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. To All of God's Sons, Daughters, and Children. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow. Let's turn to the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 4 as we lift up the Name of the Lord. Now, I'd like to tag this text with the topic "Speak to the Storm."

As I rose this morning, Big Bethel Nation, I didn't have no doubt. I know the Lord will take care of me. I know the Lord will provide for me. I know the Lord will lead and guide me all the way. So, I felt like singing. 'O Yes. I felt like runnin'. O' Yes. I felt like shouting, because God has been so Good to me. Can I get a witness? Hallelujah God. I'm reminded that the biblical text preceding Mark :1-32 teach us about various parables, such as: the parable of the sower, the parable of the growing seed, and the parable of the mustard seed. In fact, Mark shares how Jesus used illustrations, stories, and parables to teach powerful lessons in the midst of the people. Jesus would explain the illustration in depth to His disciples.

As we look at the text, many theologians ask the question, "was this a literal storm in Mark 4:35-41 or was it a parable about Jesus "speaking to" and "calming" the "storms" of our lives?" If you would allow me to use my theological mind, I would like to propose to you Big Bethel that "Yes" I believe the text represented both. Yes, Jesus was in a literal storm and Yes, He is able to speak to the storms of our lives. Have you ever found yourself in a bad situation, but Jesus spoke to your storm? I, like many of you, realize that

storms come in many shapes and forms. There may be a storm in your marriage, but God can speak to the storm. There may be a storm in your health, but God can speak to the storm. Some may have even contracted Covid-19, but I came to let you know this morning that God can speak to the storm. Your storm may be pain in your body, but God can speak to the storm!!! Your storm may be the supervisor on the job, but God can speak to the storm.

Stay with me for a moment. This was a dramatic display to bring out spiritual awareness in the hearts of disciples that were there and those to come. This spiritual breakthrough was a divine illustration that all you and I have to do is call on Jesus and he'll be there to bless and to speak peace to our storms.

If you have goals and you haven't accomplished them yet; keep on going. If you've had to endure some obstacles; get up, brush yourself off and keep running. If it seems that you can't make it over; keep trying your best. If it seems that no one notices your pain and your desire to do Great things; keep looking to the hills (for strength). If you feel all alone; just know that the Lord Jesus is right there with you. You can do it. Don't throw in the towel. Don't give up. Don't Quit. Because Greatness is in You. Believe! Believe! Believe! I Know You Can Do IT. You Know You Can Do IT. God created you with the ability to do Great Things. 'O Yes. Speak Life. Speak Power. Speak to the Storms in Your Life...
Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me...

Your faith is powerful and it's invisible. In Hebrews 11:1-3 (NRSV), the bible says "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith^[a] our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible." So beloved, you've got to activate your faith.

The more you hear the word of God, the more your faith grows. In fact, Romans 10:17 teach us "So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Every time you hear the word of God; it grows your faith. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God.

In Mark 11:22-24, ²² Jesus answered them, "Have^[b] faith in God. ²³ Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you. ²⁴ So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received^[c] it, and it will be yours.

As we embrace the celebration of the MLK holiday, I thank God for gifting this world with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oftentimes as I read the scripture of Acts 3:22-26, I am

reminded of the gifts of God Dr King shared. "And I say to you, I have also decided to stick to love. For I know that love is ultimately the only answer to mankind's problems. And I'm going to talk about it everywhere I go. I know it isn't popular to talk about it in some circles today. I'm not talking about emotional bosh when I talk about love. I'm talking about a strong, demanding love. And I have seen too much hate." How does this quote make you feel? Can you see that Dr. King had some storms? I can too. As I scale below the surface, hearing the "I have a Dream speech" and many other speeches, there is a witness in my spirit that Dr King experienced some storms. On many of the marches, there were storms. In jail cells, there were storms. On the home front, he experiences storms. Thank God, Jesus Christ was Dr. King's model, and he knew the power of speaking to the storm.

Why am I asking you to speak to the storm? Thank you; I'm so glad you asked. It's because Jesus is interceding for you and I so that we can speak to the storm and do greater works. Big Bethel, in John 14:12, Jesus himself says "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father."

Somebody 'ought to shout Hallelujah!!

I'm speaking to the storm, right now. The mortgage will be soon paid off at the church and in the homes of God's people. I speak blessings in your life right now. You are more than a conqueror. You are above and not beneath. Blessings in your marriage. Blessings in your family. Blessings in your children, grandchildren, and your lineage in Jesus' name. Blessings in finances. Blessings in your dreams and goals. Blessings on your job. Hallelujah, God Almighty. Blessings in your faith, Yes Lord... Now, I pray for you and with you that right now, in the Mighty name of Jesus, and in the Blessed Anointing of the Holy Spirit that YOU, You, and you, would speak to the Storm in your life.

In closing, I told the storm that you can't last. I said I won't be defeated. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, extremely talented, with chrisma, and oration skills off the charts, died from an assassin's bullet, while on a campaign to help poor people and garbage workers.

Jesus Christ, the son of God, Messiah, the Holy One of Israel, Anointed, spiritual gifts without restriction, preacher of the sermon on the mount, the Lamb of God, unlimited healing power, died on Calvary's cross for you and me. Allowed Us to be redeemed back to God and to speak to the storm. Yes, Lord... Speak to the Storm.

Even though your winds blow, I want you to know.

You cause me no alarm, Cause I'm safe in his arms.

Even though your rain falls, I can still make this call;

Let there be peace, Now I can say go away.

I command you to move today! Because of faith, I have a brand new day.

The sun will shine - and I will be okay, That's when I told the storm!

I told the storm to pass (oh yes I did), Storm you can't last (oh oh, you've got to go away). Go away - I command you to move today.

Storm - when God speaks; (when God speaks, you don't have a choice in the matter)

Storm - you've got to cease, That's what I told storm!

Wind stop blowing! Flood stop flowing! Lightning stop flashing! Breakers stop dashing! Darkness go away! Clouds move away! That's what I told the storm!

Death can't shake me! Job can't make me! Bills can't break me! You can't drown me! Cause my Gods surrounds me! That's what I told the storm!!!

Romans 10:9-10 says, ⁹"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." Amen.