

## Ready for the Storm Part 2

Last week we considered Storms that the Lord allowed in the lives of His children.

As we looked first at Jonah, and then the disciples of Jesus, we learned three wonderful truths.

1. Truly, our Lord and Friend is our Savior in the storm.
2. He will come when the hour is the darkest.
3. He will be with us when the danger is the greatest.

### **BUT:**

**WHY DOES GOD ALLOW THE STORMS?**

**WHY DO WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH THEM?**

#### I. HE ALLOWS STORMS TO GIVE US NECESSARY CORRECTION. **Psalm 107:23-30**

The Lord allows storms to cause us to come to our wits' end.

In times of pride and prosperity we tend to think, *I'm captain of my ship and master of my fate.*

When a storm suddenly and savagely comes into our life.

Then we find ourselves calling out to the Lord.

Sometimes the Lord may have to put us in a difficult situation to get our attention.

He's more concerned about our eternal state than He is about our present comfort.

#### II. HE ALLOWS STORMS TO GIVE US NEW DIRECTION. **Jonah 2:1-3**

God wanted to use Jonah in Nineveh.

But Jonah found a ship going in the opposite direction.

Any time we choose to go against God's will, there is a consequence to the choice.

#### III. HE ALLOWS STORMS TO GIVE US NEEDED PROTECTION. **Matthew 14: 21, 22**

The people had been fed miraculously, now they wanted Jesus to rule them politically.

a. this would sound like the moment His disciples had been waiting for.

b. this would seem like the fulfillment of their dreams,

Jesus sent them away for their own protection.

#### IV. HE ALLOWS STORMS TO NURTURE PERFECTION. **Matthew 14: 23**

After sending His disciples into a storm, He went up into the hills.

He was preparing them for what was to come.

The storm they went through for a couple of hours on the Sea of Galilee was simply preparation for what would happen in the storm of persecution that would follow. **Acts 4:1-4**

Our Captain sees what tomorrow holds.

We need to follow the example of the disciples, embrace the storm, and stay the course,

We do this knowing Jesus will appear to us at exactly the right moment, saying,

*"It is I; be not afraid."*