

# Matthew 8 Who Can This Be, That Even The Winds And The Sea Obey Him?

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## WHO CAN THIS BE, THAT EVEN THE WINDS AND THE SEA OBEY HIM?

### *The power and authority of Jesus over the physical 23-27*

- ***Matthew 8:23 Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him.***
- ***24 And suddenly (without warning) a great tempest (storm, severe wind) arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves.***
- They say that this sea was prone to sudden storms because of its geographical location. Other commentators believe that this was Satan, influencing the prince of the air over that region to try and drown all the writers of the gospels in order to frustrate God's plan.
- Satan had once tried to kill Jesus when He was a child but failed. He probably thought that this was another good opportunity to try again.
- This goes to show us also that when we are tossed about in a storm, it doesn't mean that God isn't there with us.

***Isaiah 43:1 ¶ But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.***

***2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.***

- ***But He was asleep.*** It had been a long day, it was night time and Jesus must have been exhausted.

***25 Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"***

- Who do you run to when you are in danger? In whom or in what does your strength lie?
- Most of the disciples were very experienced fishermen. But even they were really scared this time.

***26 But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?"***

- You have been with me. You have witnessed what I can do. I'm in the boat with you. What could possibly go wrong?
- When we are fearful or afraid, we are left with little or no faith.
- We forget all the things God has done for us or others in the past.

- We tend to forget that He will never leave us nor forsake us.
- ***Deuteronomy 31:8 "And the LORD, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."***
- ***Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.***
- ***Mark 4:39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.***
- I believe that not only was He rebuking the wind and the sea but He was also rebuking the spirit behind the wind and the sea.
- The Lord Jesus has great power and authority over everything, living or non-living. Over the physical world.

***27 So the men marvelled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"***

***The power and authority of Jesus over the spiritual***

***28 When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, (Or Gadarenes. People from Gergasa or Gadara, which is a place on the eastern part of the Sea of Galilee) there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce (exceedingly violent), so that no one could pass that way.***

- Why are there 2 other different accounts of the same story from Mark 5:1-20 and Luke 8:26-39?
- According to R.C. Sproul all the 3 gospels are describing the same story.
- But were they 2 demon possessed people or one?
- Mark and Luke did not say that there was only one. They simply state that one of the 2 met Jesus and spoke to Him. But for whatever reason Matthew chooses to give us more information. But there was no contradiction.
- All 3 accounts describe demon possession and the power that Jesus has over the spirit world.
- All 3 tell us that he made a point to cross the sea to save someone from the demons.
- All 3 affirm that there was at least one man plague by demons. The fact that the 3 accounts differ in some minor details only proves that

they were written by 3 different authors, each of who chose to focus on a different aspect of the account.

***29 And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God?"***

- We have no business with you Jesus. We are not connected in anyway whatsoever with you. You are holy but we are unclean.
- Light does not mix with darkness. Leave us be!
- The demons knew Him by name. They also knew Him by title.
- ***Have You come here to torment us before the time?"***
- According to John Piper the answer is YES! He says that Christ is not going to wait until the atom bomb drops to end the war. He has already begun leading a revolutionary force into the territory of Satan.
- What time? The time appointed for the torment of evil powers in ***Matthew 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:'***
- The demons know and admit that there is a time of torment that is coming for them.
- They know they are doomed. They do not fight in the hope of victory. They fight to drag as many of us down with them as they can.
- Demons know that Christ will be the one to cast them to torment in the end.

***30 Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding.***

***31 So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine."***

***32 And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.***

***33 Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.***

***34 And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.***

**Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?**

1. He is the Christ/Messiah (John 4:1-42) The Samaritan woman. **42***Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, \* the Savior of the world."*
2. He is the Bread of Life (John 6:1-51). The feeding of the 5000. **14***Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."*
3. He is the way and the Truth (John 13:31-14:6). Thomas' question. **5***Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"* **6***Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*
4. He is the I AM (John 8:31-59). The adulterous woman. Conversation with the Rabbis. **58***Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."*
5. He is the Light of the World (John 9:1-41). Healing of the blind man. **5***"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."... 39**And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."*
6. He is the Good Shepherd (John 10:1-21). **11***"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 14**"I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.*
7. He is the Son of God (John 10:22-39). At the Feast of Dedication. **30***"I and My Father are one."... 36**"do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming, ' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"*
8. He is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:1-46) Christ raises Lazarus. **25***Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.*