

The Stilling Of The Storm

One day Jesus had been talking to a big crowd of people on the shores of a large lake, lake Galilee. The day had been long and hot and very tiring, so Jesus suggested to some of his friends that they should get in a boat and sail across to the other side of the lake. The journey would give them a chance to have some peace and get some rest.

Several of Jesus' close friends were fishermen and experienced sailors, so they got into a boat and set sail. After a while Jesus had settled down in the bottom of the boat on a cushion and was soon asleep.

As dusk fell, the lights in the villages along the lake shore began to stand out brilliantly against the darkening sky. But suddenly Jesus' friends realised that the sky was darkening very quickly. It wasn't just the night drawing in, but it was a thick black storm cloud approaching.

In no time at all the storm hit the lake. The previously calm water was suddenly a swirling mass of mountainous waves. The wind blew viciously and Jesus friends struggled to lower the sails and then worked desperately with the oars. The waves grew so large that they crashed over the boat and Jesus friends became afraid that they might sink.

But all through this Jesus had remained asleep in the bottom of the boat. He hadn't even stirred. His friends rushed to him and woke him: "Jesus! Jesus! Don't you care that we are all about to drown?" they exclaimed. Jesus looked at them as they ran about in panic. Then he looked out across the lake, he held out his hand to the water and said: "Be still!" Then he held up his hand to the wind and said: "Be silent!"

Immediately the water became calm, the wind stopped blowing and there was silence, complete silence.

Jesus said to them: "Why were you afraid? Do you not know that with me there is nothing to be frightened of?"

Jesus friends could hardly believe what had happened. They said nothing to Jesus, but later asked each other: "Who can this man be? Look, even the wind and the waves do what he says!"

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