

“You are *Certainly* God’s Son!” (v. 33) DUH?!

Matthew 14:22-36

The Gospel of Matthew

Theme: Jesus is the Son of God.

The Intent:

- In light of Matthew’s Gospel, what do you think is the intent of this “story?”
- Is the story about Peter or about Jesus? [Underline one]
- Is Peter’s experience simply a means to an end? Are we to think Peter’s experience is repeatable and normative? This is foolishness. Think for a moment: How have you heard or thought about this story in the past?
- The intent of every text is to show that Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah.

Outline:

I. The Setting (vv. 22-25)

What is it about the setting that peaked your interest? What further questions might you have concerning the setting?

II. The Event / Peter Doubts (vv. 26-31)

Why do you think we have made much of Peter’s doubt?

III. The Consequence-Result / Disciples Worship (vv. 32, 33)

How many times prior to this do the disciples acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God?

IV. The Epilogue / Jesus Heals (vv. 34-36)

Why do we have the following?

“IF”

- SATAN [Mt 4:3, 6 - Challenge]
- HIGH PRIEST [Mt 26:63 - Challenge]
- THOSE PASSING BY AT THE CROSS [Mt 27:40 - Challenge]
- CHIEF PRIESTS, SCRIBES, AND ELDERS [Mt 27:43 - Challenge]

SELDOM do we put Peter in the same category as the Pharisees and Sadducees of Matt. 16:1, but Peter is just like this malignant crowd demanding a sign when they are already inundated by “signs.”

Continued on the other side . . .

QUESTION

1. How much more evidence/signs do we need from Him before we believe in Him?
2. Based on our current form of Christianity, I might wonder if we actually believe He is the King, the Son of God.
3. Perhaps we aren't much different than Peter, the Pharisees, or those who seek after signs and desire to have their bellies full of "magical" bread (John 6:2, 26).

PETER'S PROBLEM

- The problem is not that he sunk.
- The problem is that he got out of the boat in the first place.
- What is it in your life that you are asking God to change? What if He chooses not to change your situation? Can you still believe He is King?
- God is not asking you to take some great step of faith or make some great "faith" risk. The biggest step of faith or "faith" risk you make today is to believe that Jesus is King. That alone is what will get you out of bed even when everything else in your life is collapsing around you.
- God doesn't need to do anything other than what He has done for you to believe. Do you believe?

WHAT'S NEXT?

THE PROPHET

Listen to HIM
(Matt. 17:5)

