

THE ANCHOR HOLDS

Sunday, May 15, 2011 – Pastor George Dupree

The disciples of Jesus were in a storm one night, let's look at what happened.

- † Mark 4:35 As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." 36 He was already in the boat, so they started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed).37 But soon a fierce storm arose. High waves began to break into the boat until it was nearly full of water. 38 Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. Frantically they woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you even care that we are going to drown?" 39 When he woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the water, "Quiet down!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. 40 And he asked them, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still not have faith in me?" 41 And they were filled with awe and said among themselves, "Who is this man, that even the wind and waves obey him?"

POWERPOINT – Even though Jesus is in your boat doesn't mean you'll never encounter a storm, even a fierce one.

Three Things We Can Learn About Storms

1 - Storms are INEVITABLE – They even happen to good people

- † 2Corinthians 11:25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea,
- † Luke 13:4 And what about the eighteen men who died when the Tower of Siloam fell on them? Were they the worst sinners in Jerusalem?

2 – In Christ We Have PEACE

- † John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
- † John 14:27 "I am leaving you with a gift--peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid.

If you wonder why you don't have this strong peace ask yourself are you anchored in Christ, be honest, examine your life and ask that question, "Am I Anchored In Christ?" God wants to give you peace that goes beyond your understanding.

- † Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. 7 Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel.

3 – Storms Help Our CHARACTER Grow

- † Romans 5:3 We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to endure. 4 And endurance develops strength of character in us, and character strengthens our confident expectation of salvation. 5 And this expectation will not disappoint us. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

POWERPOINT – God Is More Concerned With Our Character Than He Is With Our Comfort

Don't try to avoid all the storms of life, they are INEVITABLE
TRUST God during the storms, He gives you His peace
Don't miss what God is doing in your storm, He's building Character in you.

Trust God – Hold His Hand

- † James 1:2 Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. 3 For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything.

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