

Christ Appeasing the Tempest.



(See frontispiece).

Night having come Jesus left the multitude and entered a boat with His disciples. But while they rowed a gust of wind swept the lake and suddenly a violent storm arose. The wind hurled the waves against the boat and soon it began to fill. Truly the danger was great. Nevertheless Jesus slept. The Apostles awakened Him crying: Master, save us, we perish. Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Dignified and serene Jesus rises: with one hand He commands the winds and with the other stills the waters, and there came a great calm.

This miraculous incident in the Saviour's life is beautifully depicted in the reproduced masterpiece: Jesus reassuring His frightened disciples and appeasing the fury of the raging elements — what a sublime scene; what a profitable lesson for our souls.

Is not this frail boat about to sink a too true picture of our soul frail craft riding the tumultuous waters of the world, a prey to the waves of passion, to the fury of the elements, the dangers that threaten and surround it on every side.

Let us not fear! Let us place our trust in the Commander of the tempest. This same compassionate Jesus is still with us. He abides in His Sacrament of Love and though He seems to sleep, He, nevertheless watches over us; a fervent prayer will bring Him to our aid and restore peace to our troubled soul.

Let us go to Him, let us cry out to Him in all our difficulties and especially let us receive Him into our soul everyday if possible and with Him, His Peace that calms every storm, soothes every sorrow, assuages every pain, lightens every cross, makes hard things easy, rough places smooth; His peace that passeth human understanding.