

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

March 6, 1904

Mark 4 : 35-41—Memory Verses, 37-39.

Golden Text—He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.—
Ps. 107 : 29.



35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow : and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish ?

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful ? how is it that ye have no faith ?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him ?

THE LESSON RETOLD

The crowds that now followed Jesus had grown so large, that no building could possibly hold all who were anxious to hear His gracious words and to see the miracles which He did. For this reason Jesus often taught out of doors, on a hillside, beside the seashore, or wherever the people came together. One of His favorite preaching places was beside the lake of Galilee, where the rocks sloped down to the edge of the water in such a way as to make a convenient place for the people to sit, while the Master preached to them from a little boat anchored a few feet away from the shore. It was beside this lake that Jesus told some of His most beautiful parables, amongst others, the "Parable of the Sower," and the "Parable of the Grain of Mustard Seed."

One day, when He had been preaching in this spot from morning until evening, and the sun had already begun to set, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let us now cross over to the other side of the lake." Jesus was tired with the work and teaching of the day, and it was time that He and His disciples should rest. So they made ready the boat, and as

soon as He had sent the people home, Jesus and His disciples, without waiting even to eat, set out for the opposite shore. Along with them were a number of other little boats, some on their way out for a night's fishing, and some carrying the people who had been with Jesus all day, to their homes in the towns and villages along the lake.

As soon as He and His disciples were started, Jesus went back to the stern end of the vessel, and, being very weary, lay down to sleep. But the ship had hardly got half way across, when suddenly the sky grew black and angry-looking, and before the disciples had time to get ready for it, they were overtaken by a great wind-storm, so that the waves kept beating over the sides of the boat. Every minute the storm grew louder and stronger, but Jesus still lay quietly asleep on His pillow.

Then the frightened disciples, feeling unable to manage the boat any longer, and in terror lest they should be drowned, came to Jesus and awakened Him quickly, saying, "Master, carest Thou not that we perish ?" Immediately Jesus got up, and seeing the