

Joni Lamb: Taking God's Hand Amid Life's Storms

The man was now certain he was drowning, going under forever. And to think, mere moments ago he was full of courage, stepping out in faith and obeying his master's call to come. A miracle was taking place before his very eyes. Not only was his master walking on the water, but he was too!

But then something else happened. His eyes shifted away from the one calling him and onto the storm raging all around. Wind whipped and waves hammered as pounding pellets of rain slapped his face. He was sinking fast and fought frantically to keep his head above the turbulence. Fear was engulfing him along with the sea. But surely he could trust his master? Surely He wouldn't call him out of the boat only to let him drown. Surely?

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With one final, desperate lunge before submerging into the depths, the man screamed, "Lord, save me!" If he could but cling to his master's hand, he knew he would be safe at last. "Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him." Jesus told the man, now safely in His grip, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matt. 14:30-31, MEV).

Stormy Weather

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I'm sure most of you are familiar with this Bible story. The disciples were in their boat crossing the Sea of Galilee after

Jesus had given them unmistakable instructions to go, and He would meet them on the other side. They were simply obeying His word when in the wee hours of the morning, a violent storm blew in, catching them off guard. With no satellites to predict the weather, this was common on the Middle Eastern seas. Wind and rain beat against the boat, tossing it back and forth. The sail was likely twisted, and the vessel taking on water.

Everything in the external pointed to them going down. But off in the distant darkness, they see a figure, perhaps glowing, walking toward them on the sea. A different kind of fear grips them as they assume it's a ghost. And it wasn't their imagination because they all saw it. However, as the ethereal form drew closer, it became clearer—Jesus.

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