No Title

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INTRODUCTION

- Because let's face it, the tempest is always raging. There's always a tempest. There's always a storm.
- This morning I want to talk to you about the tempest. How do we keep our faith while we're in the storm?

1 Do You Not Care That We Are Perishing?

- And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat so that it was already filling. But he was in the stern asleep on a pillow.
- Then he arose and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, peace be still. And the wind ceased. And there was a great calm.
- Do we really believe that the same Jesus that could say to the winds and the sea, peace be still, can at the right moment, at the right time, … say, peace be still.
- Brothers and sisters, we are not immune to the tempest. … We are going to be inundated with waves unless we decide here and now what's important.

2 Why Are We Afraid?

Matthew 6:25–34

- Do you not care that we are perishing? Do you know where that question comes from? It comes from being afraid.
- Maybe we're afraid because we're focusing on the wrong things.
- But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- Maybe we put our trust in the wrong things. Maybe that's why we're so afraid.
- For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep what I have committed to him until that day.
- Or maybe it's just that our faith is too small.

3 We Forget That We Are Built upon the Rock

Isaiah 41:5–10; Hebrews 13:5–6

- I'm convinced that there are some things that we forget in the waves. First, we forget that we are built upon the rock. And no storm can shake that foundation.
- There is nothing that man can do that can change God's plan.
- Fear not, for I am with you. Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you.

- I will never leave you, nor forsake you. So we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, I will not fear. What can man do to me?

4 Fearing the Tempest Only Brings Doubt and Division

- Fearing what man can do does not increase your faith in God.
- The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayers.
- But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you.
- Fear of the temporary undermines hope in the eternal.

5 No Device, Party, or Man Can Calm the Storm

- Where are we putting our faith? Is it in the boat?
- How many times do we try to take the future in our hands and say with absolute conviction that I am going to make this work?
- Brothers and sisters, there is nothing that man has devised that can calm those waves. The only thing that can calm the waves is the master that created them.

6 The Size of the Storm Doesn't Change Our Obligation

- No matter the size of the storm, it really doesn't change our obligation. To remain unspotted from the world and unencumbered by the world.
- To win the hearts of men not to change the world around us.
- You introduce them to Jesus with hope and with conviction, with love and compassion and understanding.

THE CHALLENGE

But is it well with your soul? Is there peace within you? Is there hope within your words and in your thoughts?

MY NOTES