

NO BREAK DANCING ALLOWED

Mat 14:25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

Mat 14:26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

Mat 14:27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

Mat 14:28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

Mat 14:29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

This is a very familiar story which teaches us many lessons. I want to focus on a certain aspect of this story that maybe has been overlooked. Jesus wanted the disciples to go over to the other side of the lake. In verse 22, it says he constrained them to get into the boat to go to the other side. The word constrained means he made them. They put up some resistance. I believe they could tell that some bad weather was about to set in and they did not want to be out in the storm without Jesus. He planned to stay on the mountain to pray. So the disciples headed out onto the lake in obedience to Jesus and sure enough encountered a storm. You can bet on the fact that when Jesus commissions you on a task that storms will arise to stop you. Jesus wanted to teach his disciples how to come through storms. The disciples fought the storm most of the night. When things looked the worst Jesus came walking on the water some distance from the boat. They all thought it was a ghost and was very afraid. Jesus called out and said, "Be of good cheer, it is I (literal greek says I AM); be not afraid! Jesus was saying I AM God, don't be afraid. I think the thing that has been overlooked in this story by many is the fact that Jesus walked on the water. You might say, "That is not new, I have heard that many times!" But have you stopped to consider what that means. The sea that night was very stormy. The sea was full of waves driven by fierce winds. It says that the boat was being tossed about by the waves. However, it says Jesus was walking ON the water. Now if Jesus was walking upon the waves like the boat was then Jesus would of had to do some break dancing to stay on top of the water! We do

not have a break dancing Jesus! It does not say he was walking in the water which would be the case most of the time when the waves would whip over where he was standing. No, he walked on the water. What does that mean. It means that right where Jesus was it was calm! In the immediate presence of Jesus there was calm. Each step he took calmed the trouble sea under his feet. There is no confusion or disturbance in the presence of Jesus!

Peter saw the Lord walking on the water so he said, "Lord if it is you, command me to come unto you on the water. Jesus said, Come! Peter stepped out of the boat and began walking on the water. Jesus walked on the water and it says Peter also walked upon the water. Peter upon the command of Jesus stepped out into the angry sea and when his foot touched the water it became calm under his foot. Each step he took towards Jesus brought calm water right under him! Peter did not have to break dance to stay up on the water! As long as Peter kept his focus on the Lord and his faith in the command, COME, the wave was calmed for him as he took each step. When we walk in faith in God's command to come then our steps will be made firm no matter how bad the storm and waves may get. As we take each step in faith the anointing of God will bring a calm to our hearts and lives no matter what is going on! If Peter would have kept his focus on Jesus then the sea would have been made calm under each of his steps. However, we know that Peter got his eyes off of Jesus and he started looking at the wind and the waves that were ahead of him. He looked at all the trouble water he would have to pass through to get to where Jesus wanted him to go. Instead of focusing on Jesus presence at the moment he got distracted by the waves that awaited him. He wondered how am I going to get through all those waves I see ahead of me. Soon Peter was break dancing in his head and began to sink! He called out to Jesus and he came and grabbed him and held him. He said to him, Why did you doubt? Why did you get your eyes on the future problems when you had my power right now!

We must take the lesson from this for our lives. Jesus is calling out to step out of the boat and obey him. There is always smooth sailing in following Jesus' command. There will be storms. There will be wind. There will be waves. However, if you focus upon God and trust Him He will make the waves calm under each of your steps. God's presence is in your present! God's presence means He is present right now. As you focus on Him then His presence brings a calm to you present.

God's grace is always for the present. He will not give you grace for tomorrow's problems. He will give you grace and strength for now. If we look out on our horizon we often see many waves laying ahead of us and we start worrying about them. How are we going to get through all that rough water that lay ahead? It will overwhelm our faith with doubt and unbelief. When we get overwhelmed we start break dancing in our minds and hearts and get all worked up over things that are not hear yet. We forget about that God's presence can only be found in our present! Each step the storm in calmed under our feet as we move forward towards His call. Today is the day of salvation! Now is the accepted time for God's deliverance. God's peace is now. Keep your eyes upon the presence of Jesus right now and not the waves that lay before you and you will stay at peace. There is no break dancing allowed!