

## Matthew 14 Why Did You Doubt?

### ▼Intro/Review

- Kingdom parables
- Rejected in His own home town
- 14:1-12 Walk through it

### ▼14:13-21

#### ▼14:13

- The this in v.13 is what is in vs.1-2. Jesus got alone to pray frequently.
- Today might be seen as an opportunity to build His movement, a platform to reach the masses, maybe even save this king. Why did Jesus bail on it?
- Not into building a miracle ministry, He is into transforming lives into His image.

#### ▼14:14

- Why then did He do what He did and is about to do? He had compassion on them.
- He didn't send them away because it was prayer time or trying to lay low from Herod. Ministry, opportunities to serve, happen even when it's inconvenient.

#### ▼14:15

- Ala Patrick Warburton.
- Telling Jesus what needs to happen?

#### ●14:16 This is a command

#### ▼14:17

- Telling Jesus why they can't obey? Telling Him why His plan won't work?
- We don't have a church building, don't have a full band, not an extroverted personality, too much school work, too hard to get a sitter, etc.
- Do you find reasons God can't do something, or do you obey? You are missing out on what Jesus wants to do with you, in you, and through you.
- Forest Grove needs Jesus. Cornelius needs Jesus. Hillsboro need Jesus. Banks needs Jesus. He wants to use you, where you are, with what you have, to miraculously reach them. That's how you know it was Him.
- You plus Jesus is a majority. When you fear the Lord you need not fear anyone else. When you fear men but not the Lord, you're in trouble.

#### ▼14:18-21

- Describe bread.
- Ancient posture of prayer. We get ours from the story of the Pharisee and tax collector.
- Miracles. People want proof of God but then reject miracles because they are impossible. Even some Christians reject miracles but their explanations are usually more miraculous!
- ▼ Yet some people want a sign and claim they will believe. To which I say Ha!
  - Look at Exodus. God gave them manna every day and they complained about it!
  - Bible prophecy.
  - The Pharisees, people in general (Chorazin, Bethsaida, Matthew 11).
  - With today's technology it's hard to believe anything you see!
  - The problem isn't God, the problem is us.
- This miracle was more for the disciples than it was for the crowd.
- The crowd wanted to make Jesus king right then and there, but that's not what He's after, nor it is the way He wants it.
- Jesus will be King one day, and not because we made Him so and not because He gave us fish

sandwiches. He will be King because that's what He is and it will be on His terms not ours.

▼14:22-36

- 14:22 immediately He made - compelled, forced, physically, they needed to. Notice it was His order, not their idea.
- 14:23 Jesus spent time in prayer! Pillar or prayer/power. Prayer is the connection to the power of the Spirit, God's energy at work in us. Acts 1:8. Not an obligation, not a time card, relationship. Feel distance, disconnect when you don't hang out with someone.

▼14:24-25

- Review time factors.
- Remember, Jesus sent them out there.
- Why would Jesus come to them like this? No idea. Could have transported? Maybe, suspect limited Himself to "human" capabilities. After resurrection He does more.
- Again, this was for them. No crowds this time.
- 14:26 What might it have looked like seeing this? What would you think given the circumstances?

▼14:27-31

- 14:27 How did you get here? We've been rowing for hours!
- 14:28 Remember, storm is still going.
- 14:29 Peter walked multiple steps. Interested that the rest didn't, even after seeing Peter go under.

▼14:30-31

- Little faith? He walked in water! Cool, huh?
- Jesus doesn't say this in response to Peter sinking, but rather to his uncertainty if it was Jesus or not. Jesus didn't chew Him out for sinking. Rather, chastised for lack of recognition.
- doubt - to hesitate, as one at a crossroads flip-flopping about which way to go, as scales that seem to go up and down for a time before balancing out.
- If Jesus shows up in an unexpected place, at an unexpected time, in an unexpected way, do you hesitate?
- They were probably praying for help, and help arrived. Parallels previous event, but with an extra step. That's how our faith is built up. "Faith is produced through time and testing."

▼14:32-33

- Storm goes away after Jesus gets in the boat. "The storm of life are gone When Jesus is in your boat, brother." No, not the point. Remember, Jesus sent them out there in the first place. Jesus sends us into storms? Yes, to build up our faith and ability to obey.
- This was a "wow" moment, not a confession of faith or transformation. Transformation doesn't come by the miracles, but by the message. Sin, repentance, disciple. Acts 2:38ish.
- 14:34-36 Superstitious faith. Healed anyway because Jesus is compassionate.

▼Wrap up.

- Do you hesitate? No need. It's Jesus and you can trust Him.
- At a crossroads? Don't look for a sign, listen for a voice.
- Are the scales of your life teetering? Make a choice to recognize reality and act on it.