

What Sort Of Man? (3)

Ponder: Does Jesus Care?

Scripture: “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” (Mark 4:38, NKJV)

“What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him? (Matthew 8:27, ESV). So asked Jesus’ disciples after He calmed the storm. When the violent tempest struck on the Sea of Galilee, Jesus was so exhausted that He remained asleep even as waves were filling the boat with water. His faith was perfect; He had no worry about sinking or drowning. The anxious disciples awakened Him with a question bordering on accusation: “. . . do You not care that we are perishing?”

Don’t be too rough on them! Intellectually, they certainly knew Jesus cared. They had witnessed His compassion time and time again as He cast out demons, healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, cleansed lepers, and forgave sinners. But as their lives were in jeopardy in this storm (Luke 8:23), they blurted out this question in desperation. They needed Him to act, and quickly!

Think about this: Jesus had entered the boat and told the disciples He wanted to go to the other side of the lake. To their credit, they had complied without question or objection. The next thing you know, they were being tossed about in a raging tempest that threatened to capsize their boat and drown them all.

The fact that God allows severe trials to afflict even His faithful children doesn’t imply He doesn’t care! Even today, when we face severe trials, we sometimes question whether Jesus really cares. But the stronger our faith grows, the less we doubt Him. Jesus is not like the hireling who doesn’t care about the sheep. Rather, He is the Good Shepherd Who not only cares, but lays down His very life for the sheep (John 10:11, 13).

Does it seem to you as if the Lord has gone to sleep, leaving you to face relentless difficulty on your own. Rest assured that He knows your situation even better than you do; therefore, cast “all your anxiety on Him, for He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

Not only does He care, but He has the power and authority to remedy the situation according to the Father’s will. More about that in another devotional!

Song: “Does Jesus Care?”

Prayer: Father, we thank You for caring about us, and for Jesus who cared so much that He took upon Himself human flesh and bore out sins in His body on the cross. Please help us to grow in our faith through the trials we endure. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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