

# Sunday Morning in the Word



Mark 4:35-41





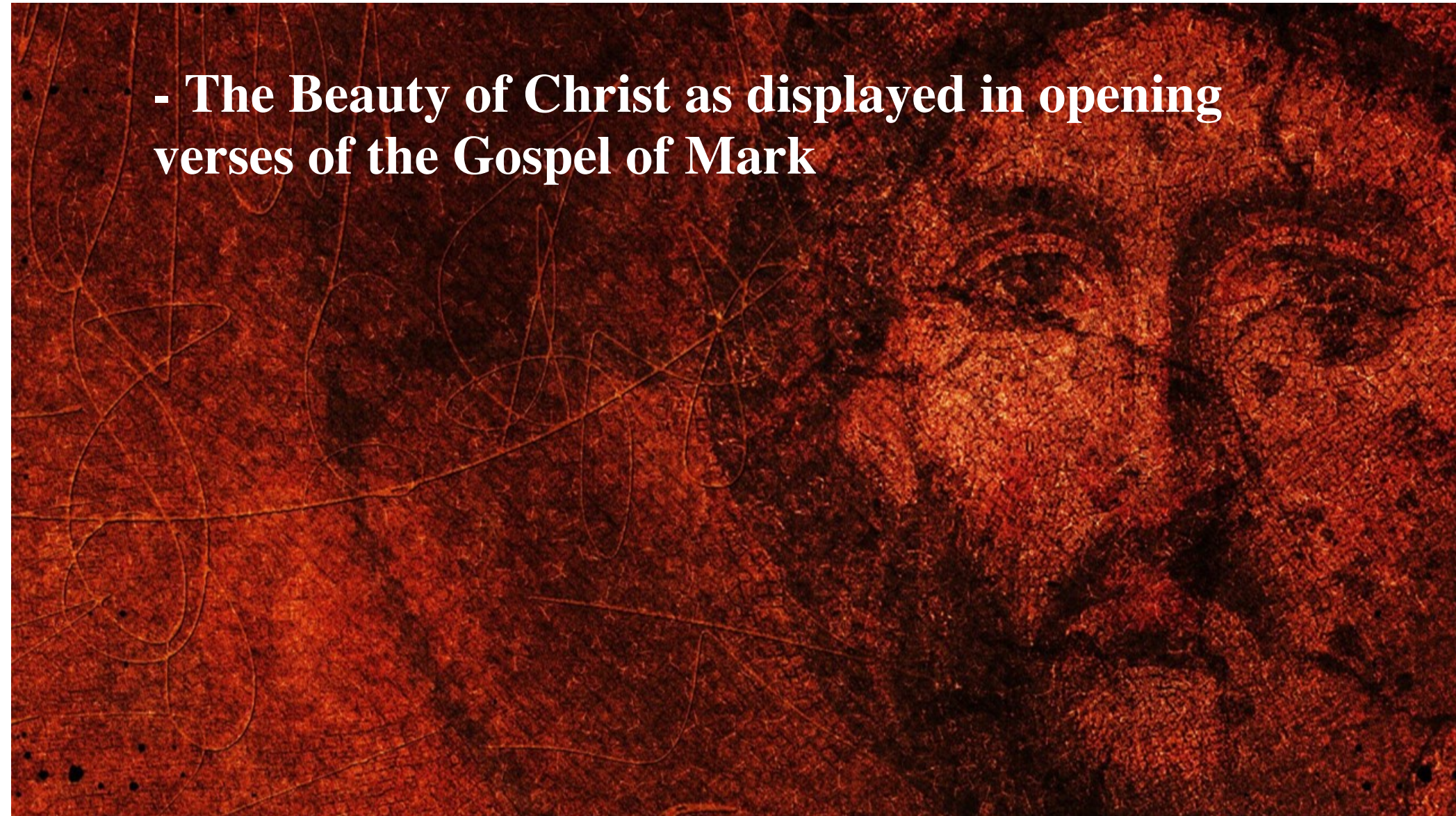
# **SIGNS and SAYINGS**

Seeing and Savoring the Beauty of  
Jesus in What He Did and Said

Mark 4:35-41



**- The Beauty of Christ as displayed in opening verses of the Gospel of Mark**







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**Sayings:**

- Jesus straight talk on Marriage (Mt 19)
- Jesus teaching on money and possessions (Mt 6)





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### **Sayings:**

- Jesus straight talk on Marriage (Mt 19)
- Jesus teaching on money and possessions (Mt 6)

### **Signs:**

- The raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11)
- Today: The sign of Jesus stilling a storm (Mk 4)





# **SIGNS and SAYINGS**

Seeing and Savoring the Beauty of  
Jesus in What He Did and Said

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### Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” **36** And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. **37** And a **great windstorm** arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. **38** But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” **39** And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a **great calm**. **40** He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” **41** And they were filled with **great fear** and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”



## The Setting

### Mark 4:35-36

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## The Setting

### Mark 4:1-2a

Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. 2 And he was teaching them many things in parables,



## The Setting

### Mark 4:33-34

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. **34** He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.



## The Setting

### Mark 4:35-36

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, **“Let us go across to the other side.”** And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.



## A Great Windstorm

### Mark 4:37

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## A Great Windstorm

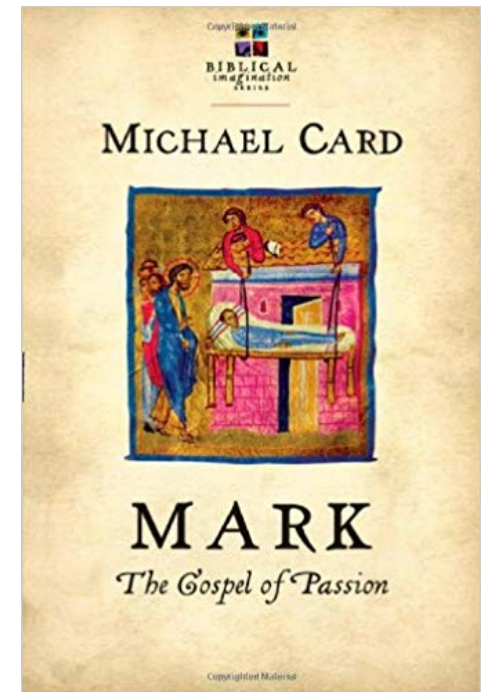
### Luke 5:4-5a

And when he (Jesus) had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” 5 And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled **all night** and took nothing!”



“Matthew refers to the storm as a shaking (“*seismos*”). Mark calls it a “great storm wind.” It is a demonic attempt on their lives. Satan has Jesus and the disciples together in a single boat on the lake. It is his opportunity to wipe out the ministry in a single stroke. It has all the hallmarks of a demonic attack.”

(Michael Card, *Mark: The Gospel of Passion*)





## A Great Windstorm

### Mark 4:38

But he was in the stern, **asleep** on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”

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## A Great Calm

### Mark 4:39

And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a **great calm**.

## A Great Fear

### Mark 4:40-41

He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?”<sup>41</sup> And they were filled with **great fear** and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”



## A Great Fear

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New Living Translation: “The disciples were **absolutely terrified.**”

## A Great Fear

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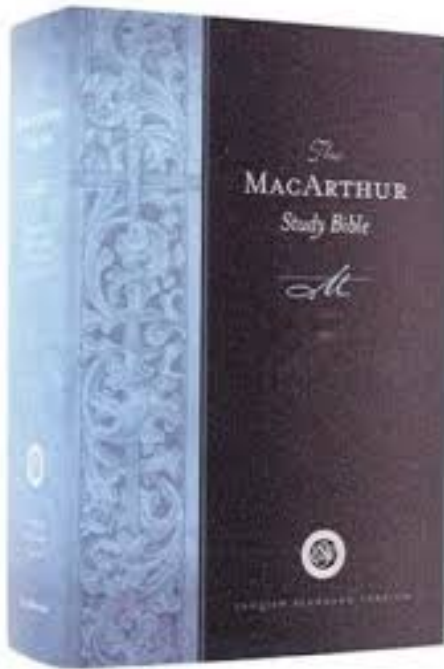
He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?”<sup>41</sup> And they were filled with **great fear** and said to one another, “**Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?**”



## A Great Fear

Mark 4:40-41 (KJV)

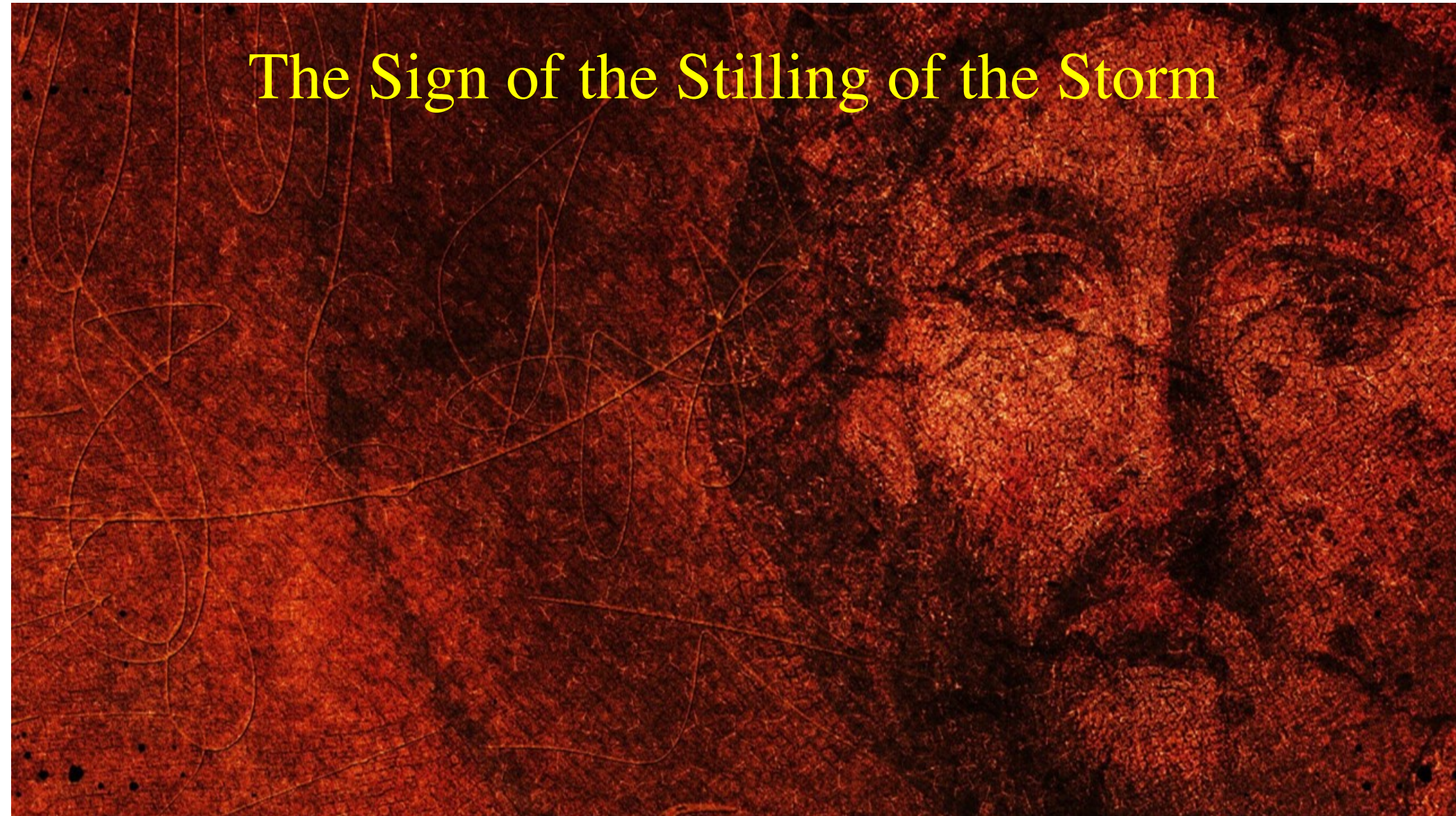
And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another,  
**What manner of man is this,** that even the wind and the  
sea obey him?



**Mark 4:41** *they were filled with great fear.* This was not fear of being harmed by the storm, but a reverence for the supernatural power Jesus had just displayed. *The only thing more terrifying than having a storm outside the boat was having God in the boat!*



# The Sign of the Stilling of the Storm





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# The Sign of the Stilling of the Storm

**A Great windstorm** – unexpected and terrifying, very likely an attack of the Enemy!

**A Great calm** – comes about as Jesus exercises his authority over the wind and sea!

**A Great fear** – filling the souls of the disciples as they realize they are in the very presence of God!

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# THE TAKEAWAYS

As all of us have learned from personal experience, we will have trials and difficulties in this life.



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## John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you **will** have tribulation. **But take heart; I have overcome the world.”**

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# THE TAKEAWAYS

The disciples had **three very good reasons** NOT to fear:

1. They had the promise of Jesus (note verse 35 and what Jesus said to them: “let us cross to the other side.”)
2. Jesus as Lord, was with them! What did they have to fear?
3. **They could see that Jesus was perfectly at peace (sleeping like a baby), as the storm raged around him!**

Yet the disciples allowed their fear to consume them!

**Mark 4:38**

But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”





Warren  
Wiersbe

“How often in the trials of life we are prone to imitate the faithless disciples and cry out, “Lord, don’t You care?” Of course, He cares! He arose and rebuked the storm, and immediately there was a great calm. But Jesus did not stop with the calming of the elements, for the greatest danger was not the wind or the waves: it was the unbelief in the hearts of the disciples.”



Warren  
Wiersbe

**“Our greatest problems are within us, not around us.** This explains why Jesus gently rebuked them and called them “men of little faith.” They had heard Him teach the Word and had even seen Him perform miracles, and yet they still had no faith. It was their unbelief that caused their fear, and their fear made them question whether Jesus really cared. We must beware of ‘an evil heart of unbelief’ (Hebrews 3:12).”

Troubled?



**Psalm 10:1**

Why, O Lord, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?



Troubled?



**Hebrews 13:5b**

I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Troubled?



**Hebrews 13:5b**

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**Matthew 28:18**

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”



R. Kent  
Hughes

“Know that Jesus is in the boat with you. He is in you. Exercise this faith and lay down your fear. For when this faith is active, fear vanishes!”



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# **THE TAKEAWAYS**

**1. When we face troubles in life, we have a choice to make:**

- We can allow fear to consume us!**
- We can embrace faith to comfort us!**

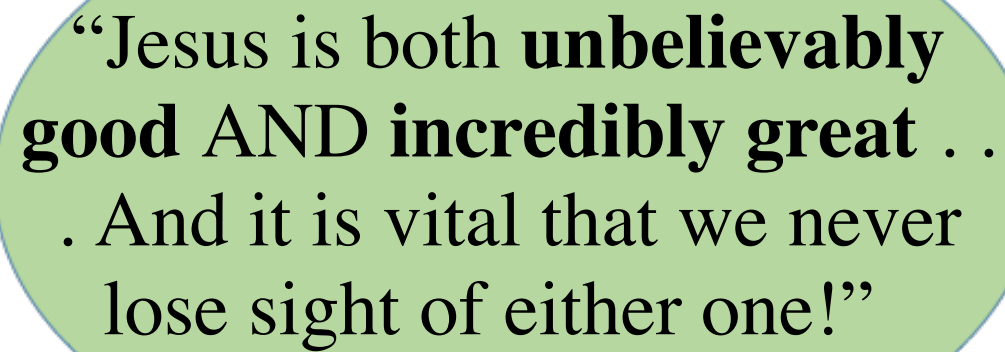
# THE TAKEAWAYS

**2. Beware of the modern caricature of Jesus, which emphasizes his goodness while for the most part ignoring his greatness!**



R. C. Sproul

“He is other. He is holy. That means that not only do people tremble at His voice, but seas that have no ears listen to His command, and winds that have no knowledge know enough to stop blowing when He says, ‘Be still!’ That is our Lord.”



**“Jesus is both unbelievably  
good AND incredibly great . .  
. And it is vital that we never  
lose sight of either one!”**



This unbelievably good and incredibly great Jesus  
is one day returning to planet earth!

Revelation 1:7

Behold, **he** is coming with the clouds, and every eye will  
see **him**, even those who pierced **him**, and all tribes of the  
earth will wail on account of **him**. Even so. Amen.

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Are we ready?

Will he find us consumed with fear or comforted by faith?