Matt. 8:23-27, "Peace to the Chaos" by Rev. Paul Hudson

The Miracles of Jesus in Matthew Summary, Sermon Notes Handout, Daily Devotional, Study Questions, & Crossword, 10/25/26

Summary

Big Idea

Jesus, the sovereign King over all creation, brings the peace of God's kingdom into our real chaos and calls us to trust him without fear.

Jesus led his disciples into a real, furious storm; their danger did not mean they were outside God's will or care. Kingdom presence does not remove suffering, instability, or frightening circumstances. Like the house built on the rock, Christ's followers still face rain, floods, and winds, yet they are called to stand on his Word and trust him.

Jesus slept because he was truly human and exhausted, yet his authority never diminished: creation was made through him and is sustained by his powerful word. He confronts the disciples' trust, then rebukes wind and waves with instant calm. The question remains: what kind of man is this? He is the sovereign Lord who brings peace now and will finally settle groaning creation.

Keys and Themes

1. Jesus Leads Into Storms

The disciples followed Jesus into the boat and into danger. Their furious storm was not evidence that they had stepped outside God's will or care.

2. Storms Are Truly Dangerous

The waves filled the boat, and the disciples rightly feared nature's force. Faith does not pretend storms or their dangers are unreal, but faith builds on Christ's solid Word.

3. The Sleeping Incarnate King

Jesus' deep sleep shows his exhausted, fully human flesh and its limitations. Yet sleep could not lessen his sovereign authority over creation.

4. The Central Issue Is Trust

"Save us" was the right cry, but fear assumed Jesus could not save them. The King calls his followers to trust his presence amid threatening waves.

5. The Lord Who Stills Seas

By rebuking the winds and waves, Jesus fulfills the portrait of the Lord who rules over nature. He brings kingdom peace now and promises creation's final order.

Sermon Notes Handout

Sermon Title: Peace to the Chaos | **Scripture:** Matt. 8:23-27

Point 1: A Real Storm

Fill in the blank: "The storms are going to ___."

Question: What storm are you facing?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 2: A Present King

Fill in the blank: "Threatening storms remain very ___ in believers' lives."

Question: Where do you need Christ's presence?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 3: The Sleeping Jesus

Fill in the blank: "He is sovereign over ___."

Question: What does Jesus' sleep reveal?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 4: The Call to Trust

Fill in the blank: "Trust in the Lord and do not ___."

Question: Will you trust him today?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 5: Peace for Chaos

Fill in the blank: "Jesus is the sovereign King who brings ___ into chaos."

Question: Where can you carry his peace?

Notes:

_____

_____

Reflection Question: What changes when you remember that Jesus is present in your real storm?

Next Step: Practice Christ's words today and trust his sustaining presence in your storm.

Family Discussion Question: How does Jesus calming the sea show us what kind of King he is?

Daily Devotional

Sunday — Led Into the Storm

Scripture: Matthew 8:23–24; Matthew 7:24–27

Jesus got into the boat, and his disciples followed him straight into a furious storm. The storm did not prove they were outside God's will or outside his care. Jesus had already taught that rain, rising streams, and beating winds come against both houses; the difference is the foundation. Faith in Christ is not pretending that danger does not exist. It is hearing his words and putting them into practice before the storm, during it, and after it. The rock does not mean no storm; it means the house will not fall.

Reflect Questions:

1. What storm feels most real to you today?

2. How are you practicing Jesus' words before trouble comes?

Monday — A Real and Present Danger

Scripture: Matthew 8:24–25

The waves swept over the boat, and Mark tells us it was filling with water. The disciples were not inventing a problem or merely facing a spiritual storm; nature's force was terrifying and deadly. Scripture does not ask us to call chaos harmless. The disciples cried, "Lord, save us!" That was the right cry. In the unsettled places of life, we may honestly name the danger before us while turning toward the One who is present. Christ's kingdom does not require denial of the storm's force.

Reflect Questions:

1. What danger do you need to name honestly?

2. Have you brought your urgent cry to Jesus?

Tuesday — The Sleeping Incarnate King

Scripture: Matthew 8:24; Philippians 2:7

Jesus slept in a boat being overwhelmed by water. His sleep gives us a glimpse of the incarnation: he was fully God, yet he clothed himself with human flesh. After preaching, healing, traveling, casting out demons, and patiently explaining his teaching, he was exhausted. The Holy Spirit-filled flesh still has limitations. Jesus did not become less than God, but his body could grow tired and weary. His exhaustion does not make him distant from our weakness; it shows that the King entered our human condition without surrendering who he is.

Reflect Questions:

1. Where do you feel the limitations of your flesh?

2. How does Jesus' exhaustion encourage your weakness?

Wednesday — Trust at the Helm

Scripture: Matthew 8:25–26; Psalm 56:3–4

The disciples said, “Save us!” but they feared as though Jesus could not save them. Jesus put his finger on the central issue for every follower: trust in the One present with us, even when he appears asleep at the helm. David also knew real physical danger and wrote, “When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.” Trust does not promise that suffering will not happen or that waves will stop crashing immediately. It rests in Jesus’ presence, which sustains his people through and beyond the storm.

Reflect Questions:

1. Where does fear suggest Jesus cannot save?

2. What would trusting his presence look like today?

Thursday — The Lord Who Stills the Sea

Scripture: Matthew 8:26–27; Psalm 89:9; Psalm 93:3–4

With a single rebuke, Jesus commanded the winds and waves, and there was completely calm. The disciples’ question is the question Matthew places before every reader: “What kind of man is this?” The Psalms say that the Lord rules the raging sea and stills its waves. Jesus is not ruled by nature as we are; he is the sovereign Lord over all creation. His miracle reveals the King and his kingdom: peace is breaking into a groaning, unsettled world, and everlasting peace and order are coming.

Reflect Questions:

1. What does the sea’s obedience reveal about Jesus?

2. How does coming peace reshape today’s chaos?

Friday — Sustained by His Powerful Word

Scripture: Matthew 8:26; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:16

Jesus did not struggle against the storm or negotiate with the waves. He rebuked them, and they obeyed. This is the King through whom all things were created and whose powerful word sustains all things. Nothing in creation can strip away his authority—not even sleep, and not even death. When our boats feel woefully inadequate and our circumstances feel stronger than we are, Christ’s authority has not weakened. We are not asked to control the storm. We are called to remember who sustains all things by his powerful word, and who can calm the raging storm.

Reflect Questions:

1. What feels stronger than you right now?

2. How does Christ’s authority steady your heart?

Saturday — Carry Peace Into Hard Places

Scripture: Matthew 8:23–27; Romans 8:19–22

Creation groans, and life in this unsettled world is full of people caught in storms. Jesus, the sovereign King, brings the peace of God's kingdom into that chaos. Therefore, his people are sent into hard places with courage rather than ruled by fear. We carry his presence as we serve those caught in storms and point them to the King who stills the sea. This does not mean we offer easy answers or deny suffering. It means our courage is rooted in the King who is present now and will finally bring creation into peace and order.

Reflect Questions:

1. Who around you is caught in a storm?

2. How can you carry Christ's peace there?

Study Questions

Read Matt. 8:23-27 and listen to the sermon "Peace to the Chaos" (10/25/26)

Observation

1) What happened after Jesus entered the boat with his disciples?

2) What were the disciples afraid would happen during the storm?

3) What was Jesus doing while waves swept over the boat?

4) What did the winds and waves do after Jesus rebuked them?

Interpretation

1) Why does Jesus entering the boat matter for understanding the disciples' storm?

2) How does Jesus' sleep reveal both his humanity and sovereignty? What does that mean for us in our relationship with him?

3) What central issue does Jesus expose by asking about their little faith?

4) How do Old Testament sea psalms identify the kind of man Jesus is? What do we learn about the kingdom of heaven?

Application

1) How might you trust Christ when your circumstances feel threatening and unsettled?

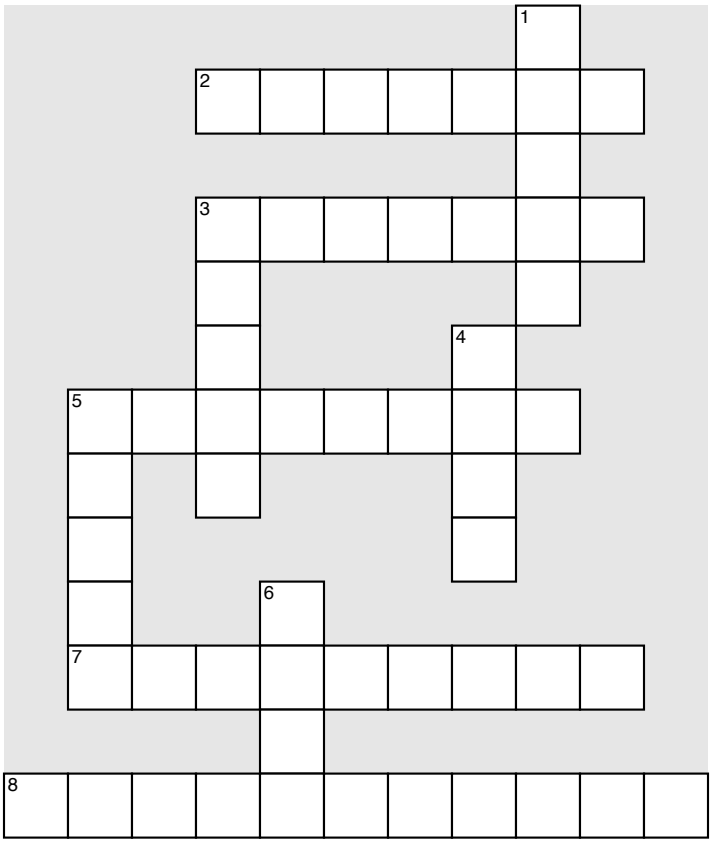
2) What words of Jesus should you practice before storms arrive?

3) Where are you tempted to believe Jesus is asleep at the helm?

4) How can you carry Christ's peace into someone else's storm?

Crossword Puzzle

Peace to the Chaos | Matt. 8:23-27 | 10/25/26



Across

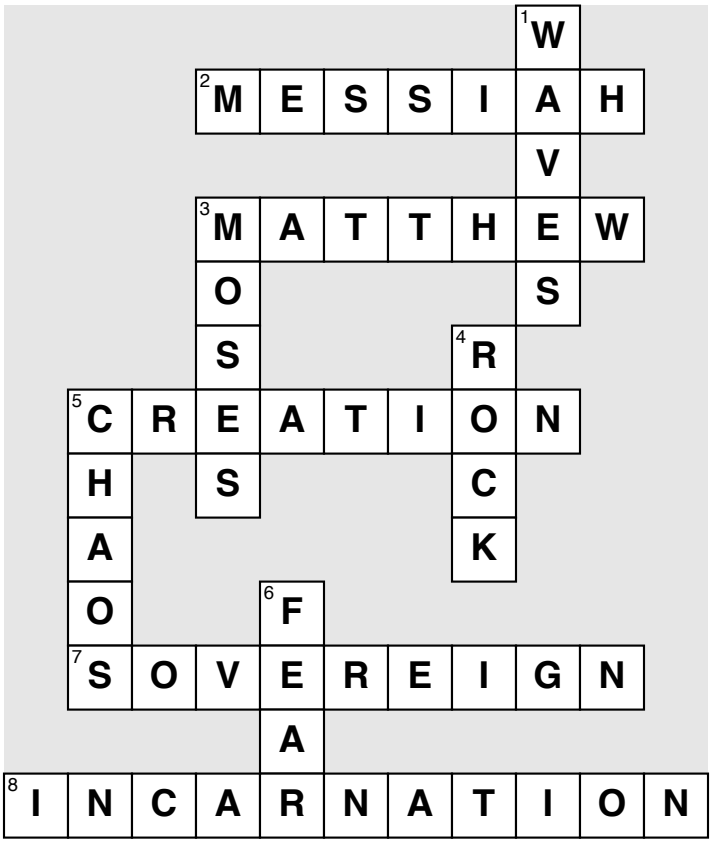
2. Prophesied King revealed by miracles
3. Gospel containing the calming account
5. Groaning world awaiting final peace
7. In absolute authority and control
8. Jesus clothed himself with human flesh

Down

1. They obeyed Jesus' rebuke
3. Jesus is greater than this leader
4. Foundation that withstands storms
5. Unsettled condition Christ addresses
6. Jesus asks why they have it

Crossword Answer Key

Peace to the Chaos | Matt. 8:23-27 | 10/25/26



Across Answers

2. MESSIAH
3. MATTHEW
5. CREATION
7. SOVEREIGN
8. INCARNATION

Down Answers

1. WAVES
3. MOSES
4. ROCK
5. CHAOS
6. FEAR