

January 11, 2026



Wk 19—JESUS CALMS STORMS & DRIVES OUT DEMONS (MT 8:23-34, pp. 147-153)

The focus of this week's reading is the power and authority of Christ, which He exercises through His Word. In the first part of the reading, the disciples join Jesus in a boat. During their journey a great storm arises.

How severe is the storm? How do you know? (CFM, 148) _____

What is Jesus doing during the storm? _____

What does this tell us about Jesus? _____

Why do the disciples awaken Jesus? _____

Why does Jesus say they have little faith? _____

How does Jesus calm the storm and why is that significant? _____

How do the disciples respond when Jesus calms the storm? _____

In the second part of the reading, Jesus encounters two demon-possessed men. **What do the demons know about Jesus?** _____

What do they beg Jesus to do and why? _____

How does Jesus cast out the demons and why is that significant?

In CFM, page 149, we read, *"We see how all people will respond in [Jesus] presence: either in awe and trust or in fear and disgust."*

How do we see these two kinds of responses in our world today?

Sometimes we are tempted to question God, asking why He would let bad things happen to us or others. **According to Job 38:4 (quoted in CFM, 151), why is it fruitless to question God in this way?** _____

Both accounts in this passage involve people who are suffering. The disciples are suffering due to their fear of the storm. The possessed men are suffering under the oppression of the demons.

According to Romans 8:18-23, what is the cause of this and all other suffering? _____

Think again about Jesus asleep in the boat. **Why was Jesus unfazed by the "threats" He faced in this world?** _____

How should we respond when we face suffering in this life? (see Romans 8:31-32) _____

For Next Time:

WK 20 – JESUS RAISES A DEAD GIRL & A YOUNG MAN (MK 5:21-24,35-43; LK 7:11-17, pp. 155-161)