

## **PETER WALKING ON WATER**

We are studying the following seven lessons on the Life of Peter from the Book of Matthew.

- Peter's calling – Matt.4: 18-22
- Peter's mother-in-law healing – Matt.8: 14-17
- Peter walking on water – Matt.14: 22-33
- Peter's confession – Matt.16: 13-24
- Peter at the transfiguration – Matt.17: 1-22
- Peter at Gethsemane – Matt.26: 36-51
- Peter's great denial – Matt.26: 31-35, 69-75

We will study our lesson text by the following SEVEN homiletical points.

- Multitude (22) – feeding of 5,000
- Mountain (23) – prayer after death of John Baptist
- Mission (24) – blew off course
- Miracle (25) – Jesus walking on sea
- Mirage (26-27) – superstition of sea ghost
- Mistrust (28-31) – Peter walking on water
- Messiah (32-33) – worship of Jesus as God's son

**This lesson will study SEVEN aspects of Peter's walking on water.  
It is recorded in the synoptic gospels (Matt.14: 22-33; Mark 6:45-51; and John 6:15-21).**

- 1. In today's lesson, the disciples are given a second test since they failed the feeding of the 5,000 test (Mark 6:52).**

“For they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart was hardened.” (6:52)

What is the doctrinal point that these disciples missed in the feeding of 5,000 that required the storm test? (John 6:14; Mark 6:30-34)

- 2. The doctrinal point that Jesus was teaching the disciples by these two tests was that the object of their faith was God's word and not the presence of Jesus (Mark 6:7-12).**

In the feeding of the 5,000, they were taught to take their problem and anxiety associated with it to the sufficiency of God's grace by means of the faith cycle. When they weren't able, they were allowed to bring it to Jesus who illustrated this doctrinal principle to them. However, they missed the lesson (2 Cor.12: 9).

So a second test was given – the storm test. This time it was given without His presence.

- 3. In the storm test, Jesus allowed them to experience a period of great distress before coming to their aid.**

They had already had a long and tiring day before the storm test (Mark 6:30-31).

The storm test was different in that many of these disciples were experienced seamen of this very sea. This time they were tested in their element. They had adequate human knowledge and resources to deal with the storm test.

However, the Lord's test is greater than our human resources and solutions. The Lord's test will require a spiritual knowledge and resources to pass it.

## Hearing

(I will see you on other side, Mark 6:45)

### Completing

(Jesus walking on sea)  
Jesus bails them out

### Believing

(got in boat and sailed off)  
John 6:18-19

### Applying

(struggling in storm / blown off course and holding onto 12 baskets of miracle bread)  
Mark 6:47; Matt.14: 24

#### **4. The storm got inside of the Old Man Belief System of these disciples because of fear of death (Heb.2: 14-16) and they failed the spiritual test. (Matt.5:14: 26).**

Superstition saw a ghost and believed their death at sea was imminent. This is an example of a lie at the core belief level of Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) thinking. (John 8:32; 8:44). There is a pattern of OMCD (2 Cor.5: 7).

#### **5. Jesus walking on top of the stormy sea was visual aid of their problem solving doctrine.**

In 14:25, the Greek teaches that Jesus had the power to walk on top of the stormy sea (epi+acc).  
In 14:26, the Greek teaches that Jesus had the faith to walk on the stormy sea (epi+gen).

In 14:28-29, epi+acc (upon the water) is used twice with Peter.

#### **6. Matt.14: 30 explain Peter's breakdown of the faith cycle.**

Why would Peter get out of the safety of the boat in a storm in order to get in the stormy sea? If you asked Peter, he would probably answer, "I don't know, I wasn't thinking, I didn't consider the cost of the consequences of my action, I could have drown."

Explain to Peter why Jesus does not need to be presence in order for the faith cycle to function by God's grace (1 John 5:4-5; James 1:2-4).

Explain how Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) made Peter's problem worst (Matt.14: 31).

#### **7. Peter created a third test that wasn't necessary - self-induced Missery (SIM). When Peter was in the boat he was probably thinking to himself, "I'm having doubts, I need reassurance, I need know." (Matt.14:25; OMCD)**

New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMDV) thinking would probably say, "I must trust God to perform what I already believe He promised (Rom.4: 21; James 2:22).

As a result of the third test, Peter went from ON the water to UNDER the water. Why? "But seeing the wind, he became afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!'" (14:30)

Because he took his mind off the object of his faith, Peter took his eyes off the object of his faith and put his eyes and mind on the object of his fear (James 1:6-8; Matt. 14:31-33).