

“Jesus, Man of Action”

Mark 4:13-4:41

And being aroused, He rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Hush, be still.” And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. And He said to them, “Why are you so timid? How is it that you have no faith?” And they became very much afraid and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?”

Mark 4:39-41, NAS

The Outline

3. Later Phases of the Ministry in Galilee, 3:7 - 6:13
 - A. Withdrawal to the sea, 3:7 - 3:12
 - B. The choice of the Twelve, 3:13 - 3:19a
 - C. The character of Jesus’ family, 3:19b - 3:35
 - D. Parables concerning the Kingdom of God, 4:1 - 4:34
 - E. The vanquishing of powers hostile to God, 4:35 - 5:43
 - F. Rejection at Nazareth, 6:1 - 6:6a
 - G. The mission of the twelve in Galilee, 6:6b - 6:13

The Words

Affliction - θλιψις - literally, *pressure, a pressing together*; only figuratively in the New Testament of suffering brought on by outward circumstances: *affliction, oppression, trouble* (Romans 5:3); especially to be regarded as participation in the sufferings of Christ (Colossians 1:24); of sufferings of the end time, *tribulation, trouble, distress* (Mark 13:19); with the modifier ἡ μεγάλη translated as *the great tribulation, the time of great trouble* (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14).

Persecution - διωγμός - literally, *pursuit, chase*; figuratively, *persecution* (Matthew 13:21); to systematically organize a program to oppress and harass people: *to persecute, to harass, persecution*.
Examples: “happy are those who suffer persecution because they do what God requires” Matthew 5:10; “they killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and persecuted us” 1 Thessalonians 2:15; “that very day the church began to suffer a cruel persecution” Acts 8:1.

Accept - παραδέχομαι - literally, *receive, welcome*; to come to believe something to be true and to respond accordingly, with some emphasis upon the source: *to accept, to receive, acceptance, reception*. Examples: “many of them accepted his message and were baptized” Acts 2:41; “this is a true saying and is worthy of being fully received” 1 Timothy 1:15; “because the people will not accept your witness about me” Acts 22:18; “do not accept an accusation against an elder unless there are two or three witnesses” 1 Timothy 5:19.

Kingdom - βασιλεία - literally, *reign, rule; kingdom*, (1) abstractly, the power exercised by a king: *kingship, royal rule, reign* (Acts 1:6); (2) concretely, the territory ruled by a king: *kingdom, realm* (Matthew 4:8); (3) predominantly in the New Testament of the rule of God as promised, prophesied, and fulfilled through the spiritual rule of God in the hearts of men now (Romans 14:17) and ultimately to be fulfilled in the messianic reign of Christ on earth: *reign, kingdom* (Luke 1:33).

Mustard - σίναπι - literally, *mustard plant*, a large herb noted for its very small seeds and in some instances growing to a height of three meters (about ten feet). Note that in Matthew 13:31-32 (and in the parallel passage Luke 13:19) it is actually spoken of as a δένδρον “tree” evidently a type of rhetorical hyperbole.

Very Much Afraid - ἐφοβήθησαν φόβον μέγαν - a very emphatic description made up of three words:

φοβέομαι - literally, *be afraid, respect*; Examples: “when the disciples heard this, they fell face downward and were extremely afraid” Matthew 17:6; “and do not fear those who are able to kill the body” Matthew 10:28; “they were afraid that the people might stone them” Acts 5:26.

φόβος - literally, *fear*; a state of severe distress, aroused by intense concern for impending pain, danger, evil, etc., or possibly by the illusion of such circumstances. Examples: “with fear and great joy they quickly left the tomb” Matthew 28:8; “troubled in every way, conflicts without and fears within” 2 Corinthians 7:5.

μέγας - large, great (of a loud sound; strong wind; high fever; etc.); greatest; surprising.