

"Where Is Your Faith?"

Luke 8:22-25

Sept. 18, 2022

Sept. – Dec. Meeting Schedule

Sept. 25 – Class

Oct. 2 – No Class – EPCC not available.

Oct. 9 – No Class – EPCC not available.

Oct. 16- No Class – EPCC not available.

Oct. 23 - Class

Oct. 30 - Class

Nov. 6 – Class

Nov. 13– No Class – EPCC not available.

Nov. 20 – Class

Dec. 4 - Class

Luke 8:22-40

- 22 Now on one of those days Jesus and His disciples got into a boat, and He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they launched out.
- 23 But as they were sailing along He fell asleep; and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to be swamped and to be in danger.
- 24 They came to Jesus and woke Him up, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And He got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they stopped, and it became calm.
- 25 And He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?"

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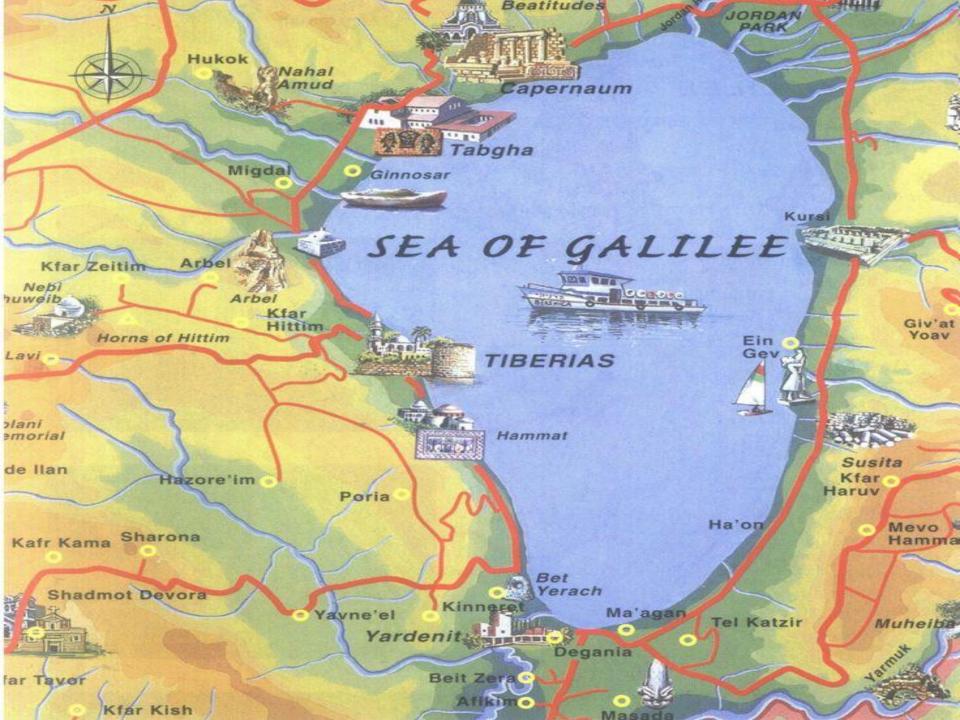
"one of those days" -

Luke 8:1,4

- 1 Soon afterwards, He began going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God.
- 4 When a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him,
- Note: Jesus gives a command:
 - The disciples obey.
 - Jesus gets in the boat with them.
 - There is more than 1 boat.

Mark 4:35-37

- 35 On that day, when evening came, He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side."
- 36 Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him.
- In Jesus' day, the western shore of the Sea of Galilee was the Jewish side, while the eastern shore was the side where the Gentile cities were.
- Those on the east were considered "the other side".



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- No doubt Jesus is exhausted so He "crashes."
- This is proof of His humanity.
- Peaceful at this point.
- But it soon changes from calm to a storm.
- How come so fast?

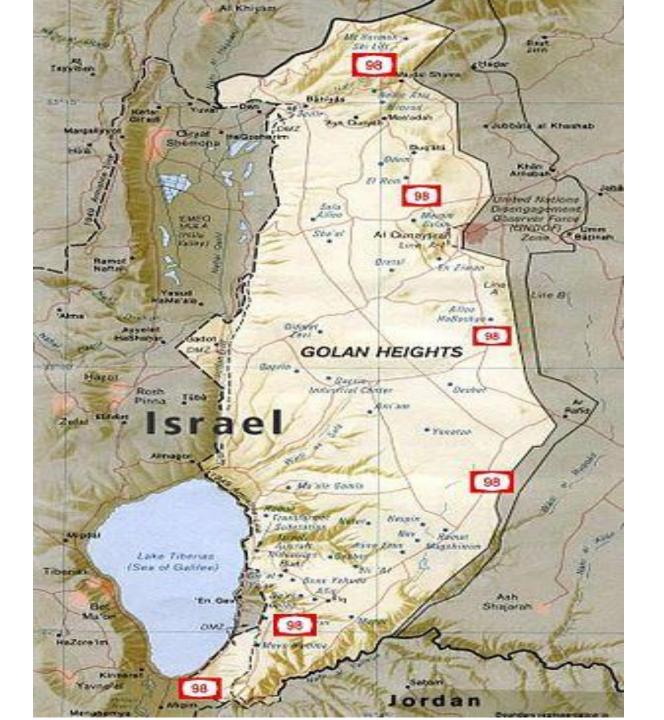


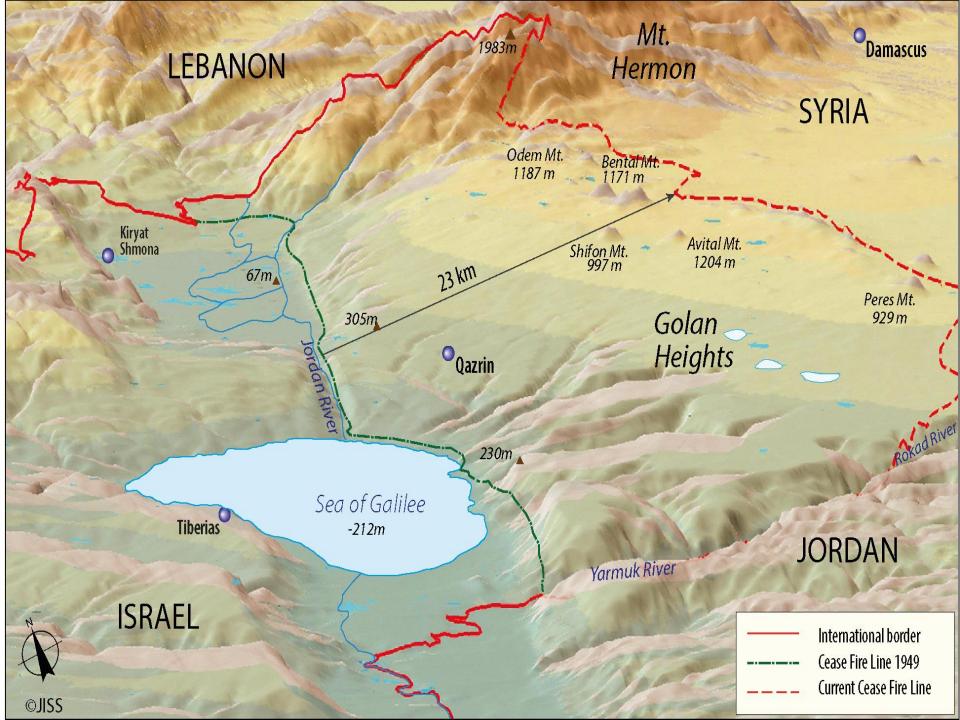




The Golan Heights: A Topographical Representation













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- How come so fast?
- Think about it: The Sea of Galilee, with all of its peculiars, was created by God to put on display the magnificence of His Son.
- "fierce gale of wind" "mega seismos" Matt. 8:24

Note the wording: "descended."

- So the Lord creates the storm to show He is greater than the storm.
- The boat is filling with water.

²³ πλεόντων δὲ αὐτῶν ἀφύπνωσεν. καὶ κατέβη

λαῖλαψ ἀνέμου εἰς τὴν λίμνην καὶ

συνεπληροῦντο καὶ ἐκινδύνευον.

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- The fishermen know what is happening.
- Panic is everywhere. They feel the strain of living in a fallen world.
- **Note:** It is good to feel the strain. We need "wind stress" to grow.
- "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" (Matthew 8:25)
 "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" (Luke 8:24)
 "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" (Mark 4:38)
- Obedience got them into the storm.
- Sometimes disobedience gets you into the storm.
- Jesus sleeping = humanityJesus rebuking = Deity
- How would you have reacted?

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"Where is your faith?"

- 1. They did not show faith
 - Panic, desperation, fear, worry.
- 2. Faith is based on 3 pillars:
 - 1. Trusting in the promises of God's Word.

Ps 65:5-7

- 5 You who are the trust of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea;
- 6 Who establishes the mountains by His strength,
- Being girded with might;
- 7 Who stills the roaring of the seas,
- The roaring of their waves,

Ps 89:9

- You rule the swelling of the sea;
- When its waves rise, You still them.

Ps 104:3

3 He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters; He makes the clouds His chariot; He walks upon the wings of the wind;

Ps 135:7

7 He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; Who makes lightnings for the rain, Who brings forth the wind from His treasuries.

Ps 107:23-30

- 23 Those who go down to the sea in ships, Who do business on great waters;
- 24 They have seen the works of the Lord, And His wonders in the deep.
- 25 For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind, Which lifted up the waves of the sea.
- 26 They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths; T heir soul melted away in their misery.
- 27 They reeled and staggered like a drunken man, And were at their wits' end.
- 28 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, And He brought them out of their distresses.
- 29 He caused the storm to be still, So that the waves of the sea were hushed.
- 30 Then they were glad because they were quiet, So He guided them to their desired haven.

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"Where is your faith?"

- 1. They did not show faith -
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2. Faith is based on 3 pillars:

- 1. Trusting in the promises of God's Word.
- 2. Understanding God's sovereignty, providence, and power.
- "There are the billions of molecules in the air and sea and he is Lord of them all. He must be if he is the Lord. If there was one maverick molecule in all the universe not under the control of Jesus Christ then he would not be Lord. There are no rogue molecules in the heaven or on the earth or under the earth that are of his control."

- Geoff Thomas

Colossians 1:16

16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

3. Believing God is present everywhere and is always with us.

Heb 13:5-6

5 "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,"

6 so that we confidently say,

"THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.

*How many were seen in the fiery furnace when they looked I at Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego?

25 And He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?"

3. So, if they did have faith, how would this look different?

- No panic or fear or worry.
- Pray? Yes.

1 Peter 5:7

- 7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you
- sails? water in the boat? others in the boat?
- Don & Maggie

- 25 And He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?"
- Luke is saying, "This is God."
- They knew the answer to their question.
- Every trial, crisis, and problem is designed to reveal something different about the Lord Jesus.

Application

1. Life is one big storm.

You can lose your job.

You can have a financial crisis

You can have a death in the family.

You can have a sudden sickness.

You can end up in the emergency room.

You can be at the scene of a car accident.

You can be diagnosed with a terminal illness.

"If you are a believer, you must reckon on having your share of sickness and pain, of sorrow and tears, of losses and crosses, of deaths and bereavements, of partings and separations, of vexations and disappointments, so long as you are in the body. Christ never undertakes that you shall get to heaven without these. He has undertaken that all who come to him shall have all things pertaining to life and godliness; but he has never undertaken that he will make them prosperous, or rich, or healthy, and that death and sorrow shall never come to their family"

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- If you don't spend time with the Lord in the calm of life, you won't know how to trust Him in the storms of life.
- 3. You must prepare your heart for the storm.
- 4. "No one is willing to do real change until real crisis comes!"

"Some people will change when they see the light;

Others change only when they feel the heat!"

5. Sometimes Jesus doesn't calm the storm.

- John the Baptist
- Apostles
- What should we do if we trust in the Lord, but the boat sinks? We trust in the Lord Jesus as we go under. "We go down singing the doxology."
- John Hus was burned at the stake for his faith, but he went out singing.
- Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer were burned at the stake together.
- Hudson Taylor lost his beloved wife Maria as they both sought to take the gospel to inland China.
- John Paton and his wife went to the New Hebrides Islands as missionaries and he lost his wife and child to a tropical fever 3 months after their arrival on the islands.

Heb. **11:36** "and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword;

Esther 4:16

16 And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."

Ps 63:3

Your lovingkindness is better than life,

6. Whether we die or whether we live, we need to trust the Lord.