

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?

Matthew 14:22-33



CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?

Matthew 14:22-33 (NKJV)

²² Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. ²³ And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. ²⁴ But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. ²⁵ Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea.

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?

Matthew 14:22-33 (NKJV)

²⁶ And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**" ²⁸ And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." ²⁹ So He said, "**Come.**" And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?

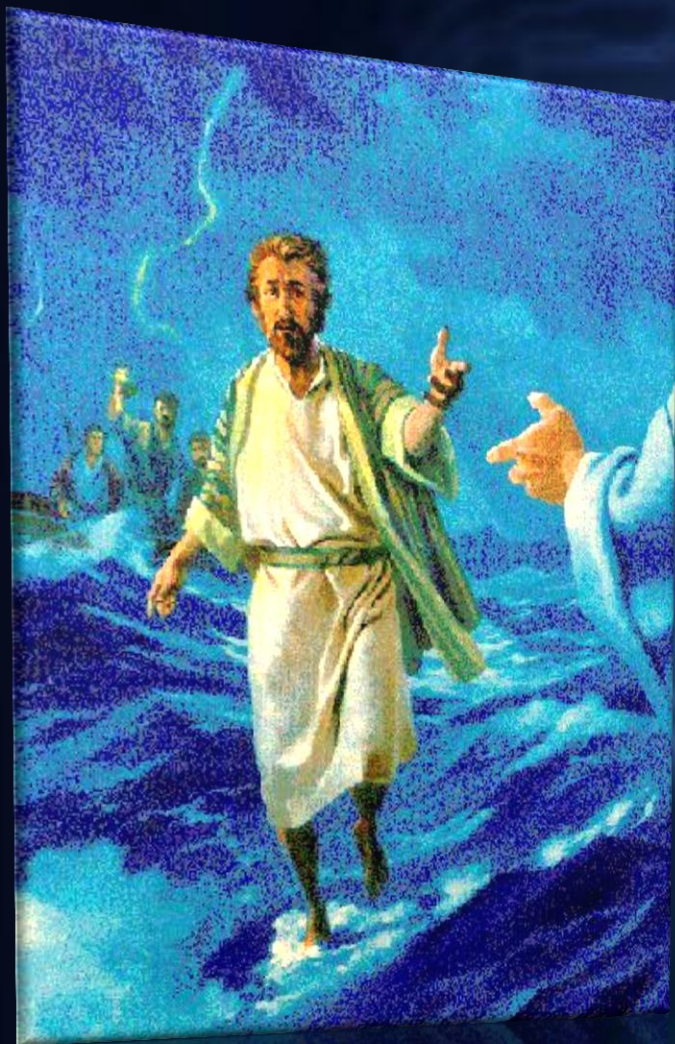
Matthew 14:22-33 (NKJV)

³⁰ But when he saw that the wind *was* boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

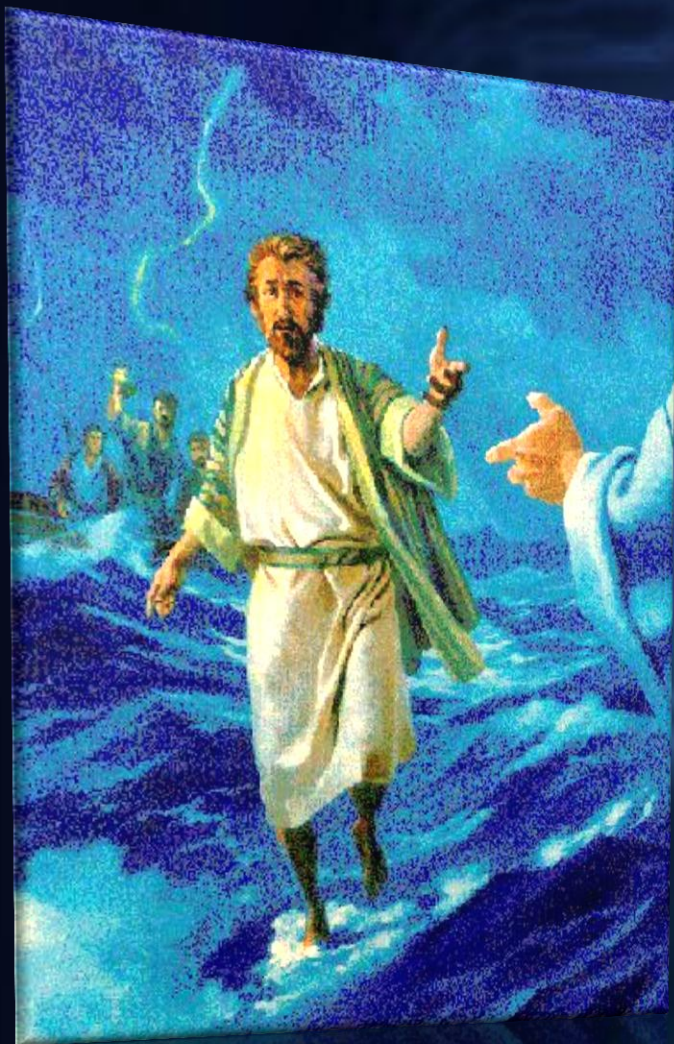
CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?

Matthew 14:29
(NKJV)

²⁹ So He said, "Come."
And when Peter had
come down out of the
boat, he walked on
the water to go to
Jesus.



CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?



LITERALLY – NO –
because the command
was to Peter and NOT
TO US!

FIGURATIVELY – YES
– We can accomplish
anything Jesus has
Commanded us to do!

WHY DID PETER BEGIN TO SINK?

7



NOT BECAUSE

- ◆ He Lacked Faith In Jesus' Power! – (28)
- ◆ He Lacked Interest & Effort – (28)
- ◆ He Acted Presumptuously – (28,29)
- ◆ The Instructions Of The Lord “COULD NOT” Be Carried Out – (29)

WHY DID PETER BEGIN TO SINK?

8



BECAUSE HE TOOK HIS EYES OFF JESUS — (30)

"But when he saw that the wind was boisterous,"

◆ **He was distracted by the storm** – he began to notice what was going on around him instead of focusing on Jesus . . .

◆ **Distraction is a tool often used by Satan . . .**

WHY DO WE BEGIN TO SINK?



BECAUSE WE TAKE OUR EYES OFF JESUS!

◆ We can easily be distracted by:

- ◆ Being anxious, or overly concerned for our material needs - Mat 6:19-33
- ◆ The hardships we have been called to endure - Mat 13:20-21
- ◆ Allowing material things to consume our time and efforts – Mat 13:22

WHY DO WE BEGIN TO SINK?



BECAUSE WE TAKE OUR EYES OFF JESUS!

◆ We can easily be distracted by:

- ◆ Temptations – (Gen 3:1-6)
- ◆ Problems – (Num. 13:28-33)
- ◆ Our Past – (Phili 3:13,14)
- ◆ Our Work – (Eph 4:28)
- ◆ Our Burdens - (2 Cor 5:4; Gal 6:2; Heb 10:35-39)
- ◆ Relationships – (1 Cor. 15:33)
- ◆ False Teachers – (Eph 4:14)

WE DO NOT HAVE TO SINK?



WE NEED TO KEEP OUR MIND ON JESUS!

Hebrews 12:2-3 (NKJV)

² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

WE DO NOT HAVE TO SINK?



WE NEED TO KEEP OUR MIND ON JESUS!

- ◆ **Upon Our Lord, Jesus Christ** –
1 Pet 2:21; Heb 2:9-18; 12:1-3;
- ◆ **Upon The Words of Christ** –
Luke 21:33; Mat 28:18,19; Jam
1:25; John 12:48
- ◆ **Upon Our Blessings** – Eph 1:3;
Phili 4:4-13
- ◆ **Upon God's Promises** – Acts
2:38; 1 John 1:9; 2 Cor 4:16-18

WHY DID PETER BEGIN TO SINK?

13



FEAR OVERPOWERED PETER'S FAITH — (30)

**"But when he saw that the wind was
boisterous, he was afraid;"**

- ◆ **What seemed so sure to Peter
"INSIDE" the boat became a
frightening experience
"OUTSIDE" the boat! -**
- ◆ **When buffeted by the gale he
began to doubt then panicked!**
- ◆ **Fear gripped Peter again –
Mat 26:33,69-75; Gal. 2:11,12**

WHY DO WE BEGIN TO SINK?



OUR FAITH CAN BE OVERPOWERED BY FEAR

- ◆ **Faith Is Easier professed than practiced** – James 2:14-20
- ◆ **Fear is the result of doubt** – Mat 14:31; James 1:6-8
- ◆ **Do Not Let Fear Destroy Your Faith** – Rev. 2:10; 21:8
- ◆ **Faith needs strengthened** – Luke 17:5; Heb. 12:12; 13:5,6; Rom. 10:17

WHY DID PETER BEGIN TO SINK?

15



BECAUSE

- ◆ He Was Distracted By The Storm And Took His Eyes Off Jesus – (30)
- ◆ He Doubted What He Could Do With The Lord and Feared – (30)
- ◆ When His Faith Sank, He sank -(30)

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?



PETER

- ◆ **Had the faith to get out of the boat (29)**
- ◆ **Walked on Water (29)**
- ◆ **Began to Sink – (30)**
- ◆ **Cried out “Lord save me!” - (30)**
- ◆ **Jesus SAVED HIM! (32)**

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?



SIGNS THAT YOU MAY BE BEGINNING TO SINK

- ◆ A loosening of morals
- ◆ A creeping disinterest in worship and associating w/ other Christians
- ◆ Backsliding into practices you confessed were wrong
- ◆ Good news: If we are slipping there is a way to fix it

CAN YOU WALK ON WATER?



- ◆ **Unsinkable faith requires a single mind! – Mat 6:22,23**
- ◆ **It is a challenge to serve the Lord! – Mat. 7:13,14**
- ◆ **We can do anything and everything the Lord commands us to do! – Phil 4:13; 1 Cor. 10:13**
- ◆ **But . . . we can easily find ourselves sinking . . . If we do - WHY DROWN???? - Acts 2:21; Rom 10:13; Mat 7:21-23; Acts 2:38; 22:16**

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