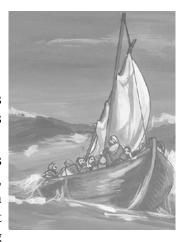
In Control

Luke 4:16-30

During His temptation, the Lord Jesus was with wild beasts (*Mark 1:13*). It was no problem. The Creator was in control.

In Nazareth, the hometown crowd was enraged at Jesus' claims. They rose up, thrust Him out of the city, and led Him unto the brow of the hill that they might cast Him down headlong. "But He, passing



through the midst of them, went His way" (Luke 4:29-30). He was in control.

A great tempest arose on the Sea of Galilee. The storm was so serious that even our Lord's band of experienced fishermen feared for their lives: "Lord, save us: we perish!" Jesus, who had been sleeping through the tempest, rebuked the winds and the sea, resulting in a great calm. He was in control (*Matt.* 8:23-27).

They laughed the Lord to scorn when He claimed that a dead girl was merely sleeping, but in a moment they realized who was really in control (*Mark* 5:38-42).

The band of men who came to arrest Jesus heard Him declare "I AM," and they all "went backward, and fell to the ground" (*John 18:4-6*). Before the Lord permitted them to arrest Him, He wanted them to know who was in control.

When Pilate claimed to have the authority to put Jesus to death, the Lord reminded him who was in control: "Thou couldest have no power at all against Me, except it were given thee from above" (*John 19:11*).

Though wicked men put Jesus on the cross, our Lord made it quite clear that His death was totally voluntary: "I lay down My life; No man taketh it from Me" (*John 10:17-18*). He was in complete control.

No matter what difficulties or deep trials you are going through, be sure to stop and remember who is in control. May your heart be calmed by His "Peace, be still."

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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