

THE AGE OF SAMUEL VII

STORM PROOF SAMUELS

¹⁹ Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen.

Psalm 77:19 NIV

⁴⁵ And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people. ⁴⁶ And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray. ⁴⁷ And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. ⁴⁸ And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them. ⁴⁹ But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: ⁵⁰ For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid. ⁵¹ And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

Mark 6:45-51 KJV

- I. Samuels are storm proof, not storm free.
 - A. Samuel was conceived in a storm.
 - B. Samuel was raised in a storm of terrible leadership and utter moral decline, with its visible consequences.
 - C. Samuel endured the storm that was Saul.
 - 1. Storm Saul had an illegitimate, rebellious beginning.

2. Storm Saul was interested only in externals.
3. Storm Saul refused to wait on God.
4. Storm Saul would not destroy the strong man.
5. Storm Saul was rash, unstable, and unreliable.
6. Storm Saul was puffed up with pride.
7. Storm Saul made obedience optional.
8. Storm Saul chose relief over repentance.
9. Storm Saul wound up seeking comfort from demons.

II. Storms are inevitable. / Jesus is the Lord of the storm.
(John 16:33)

³³ *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

- A. No human disobedience can deter your destiny.
- B. No circumstantial storms can deter your destiny.
- C. The voice of God will still prevail over the storm.
- D. The ship and cargo may not make it, but you will.
- E. Miracles happen in the deep.
- F. Christ sees you when you cannot see him
- G. God meets us in the unknown.
- H. Don't be critical of someone else's storm.
- I. Storms are mysterious. Don't try to interpret them immediately.
- J. Storms are liminal moments.
- K. Some of the greatest storms come when you're in the will of God.

III. Seven kinds of circumstantial storms

- A. Jonah storms - these are caused by disobedience. Repent.
- B. Disciples' storms - these come to strengthen your character. Endure.
- C. Stephen storms - these are storms where there will be a lesser loss for a greater good. Die well.
- D. Job storms - these storms can never be understood this side of Heaven. Worship.
- E. Christ storms - these storms come because you are doing the right thing.
- F. Paul storms - these storms are allowed because they open up a greater opportunity for ministry.

IV. Four entry points to the storm

A. Impatience (Acts 27:10)

¹⁰ *“Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also.”*

B. Trusting self-appointed experts (Acts 27:11)

¹¹ *But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship.*

C. Trusting prevailing opinions (Acts 27:12)

¹² *Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there. This was a harbor in Crete, facing both southwest and northwest.*

D. Being led by temporary circumstances alone (Acts 27:13)

¹³ *When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete.*

- V. Three grounds for hope in the storm
 - A. Storms cannot harm the servant of God.
 - B. Storms cannot hide the face of God.
 - C. Storms cannot hinder the will of God.