

## **Take Courage! Jesus stills the raging seas (of humanity and the nations)**

We often read stories like Jesus walking on water or calming storms and think, “That’s amazing—but what am I supposed to do with that?” They show His authority over creation, but the practical meaning isn’t always clear. Unless we understand their meaning, they can feel distant from everyday life. After all, none of us is trying to literally walk on water. But Scripture consistently uses seas, floods, and raging waters as metaphors for humanity in turmoil—culture in chaos, nations in uproar, and people who feel overwhelmed. When you see the water this way, these stories suddenly become deeply relevant. Let’s see what God’s Word has to say!

“You still the raging of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples” (Ps. 65:7).

“Woe to the many nations that rage— they rage like the raging sea! Woe to the peoples who roar— they roar like the roaring of great waters! Although the peoples roar like the roar of surging waters, when he rebukes them they flee far away, driven before the wind like chaff on the hills, like tumbleweed in a storm” (Isa. 17:12–13).

“But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud” (Isa. 57:20).

“The waters... are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages” (Rev. 17:15).

“For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits’ end. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed” (Ps. 107:25–29).

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life” (Rom. 6:3–4).

“To those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Pet. 3:20–21).

“Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea” (Rev. 21:1).

**For this lesson, think about how water relates to the following areas.**

- Humanity, the nations, and culture
- Human hostility, troubles, and crisis
- Human fear and vulnerability
- Human disorder and chaos
- Human limitation and death

**Ask the following questions as they relate to the points above.**

1. What can you learn from these verses? Does anything stand out to you? Which verses speak to you the most? Why?
2. What kinds of things does water represent? Do you notice any progression? How does God’s salvation story run through all of this?
3. How can you apply this to your life? How might this help you take courage and not fear? What can you do when you feel overwhelmed by the world? What’s your default when your life feels chaotic? What’s your response when your emotions get the better of you?
4. Identify one big takeaway from this lesson. Share any insights you gained. Summarize what you learned in a sentence or two.

In Scripture, water imagery—whether seas, storms, floods, or the deep—symbolizes the chaotic, overwhelming, and unstable nature of humanity and the nations, over which only God has true dominion.

God rules over human history. Jesus has authority over the waters of humanity. He meets us in our distress and delivers us. He brings order out of chaos. He saves us from drowning by bringing us through the waters of death. In the new creation, nothing threatens God’s people ever again.

Take courage! Don’t be afraid! When you feel overwhelmed and crushed by the waves of life, trust the One who rules the seas, calms the storms, and carries His people safely through. God brings us from chaos to a new creation through Jesus Christ, who leads all who trust in Him through death into resurrection life.

**Bible References:** [Ps 65:7](#); [Isa 17:12–13](#); [Rev 17:15](#); [Isa 57:20](#); [Ps 18:4](#); [Ps 69:1–2](#); [Ps 124:2–5](#); [Isa 8:7–8](#); [Ps 107:23–29](#); [Jon 1](#); [Gen 1:2](#); [Jer 4:23–26](#); [Ps 46:2–3](#); [Ps 88:6–7](#); [Jon 2:3–6](#); [Rev 21:1](#); [Exo 14](#); [Josh 3](#); [1 Pet 3:20–21](#); [Rom 6:3–4](#); [1 Cor 10:1–2](#) [[SPANISH](#)]