

A close-up photograph of a hand holding an open book. The book is held vertically, and bright, golden light rays emanate from the pages, creating a dramatic, ethereal effect. The background is dark, making the light from the book stand out. The text 'BOOK of JOHN' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font. The word 'BOOK' is in a bold, all-caps font, 'of' is in a smaller, elegant script font, and 'JOHN' is in a bold, all-caps font.

BOOK *of* JOHN

WHEN STORMS COME

JOHN 6:15-21

This passage is best understood by considering the totality of the Gospel record, which includes two other passages:

Matthew 14:22-34 and **Mark 6:45-52**.

What was Jesus thinking?

- He led them straight into the teeth of this storm!

Did Jesus know that a storm was coming?

- **Of course He did.** Then why did He deliberately send His friends into danger? To save them from their worst enemy—***THEMSELVES!***

GOD KNOWS THE “WHY” OF EVERY STORM

The Lord often has to balance our lives through storm clouds of difficulty, hardship, pain, suffering, and sorrow.

- **Storms build character.**
- **Storms build dependence on Him.**
- The feeding of the 5,000 was the lesson, but the storm was the examination after the lesson—the test of the material learned.

NOBODY IS EXEMPT FROM STORMS

Sometimes we are caught in a storm because we have ***DISOBEYED*** the Lord; Jonah is a good example of this truth.

- But sometimes the storm comes because we have ***OBEYED*** the Lord—like the disciples here.
- Jesus never promised us a storm-free life, just to get us home safe in the end.

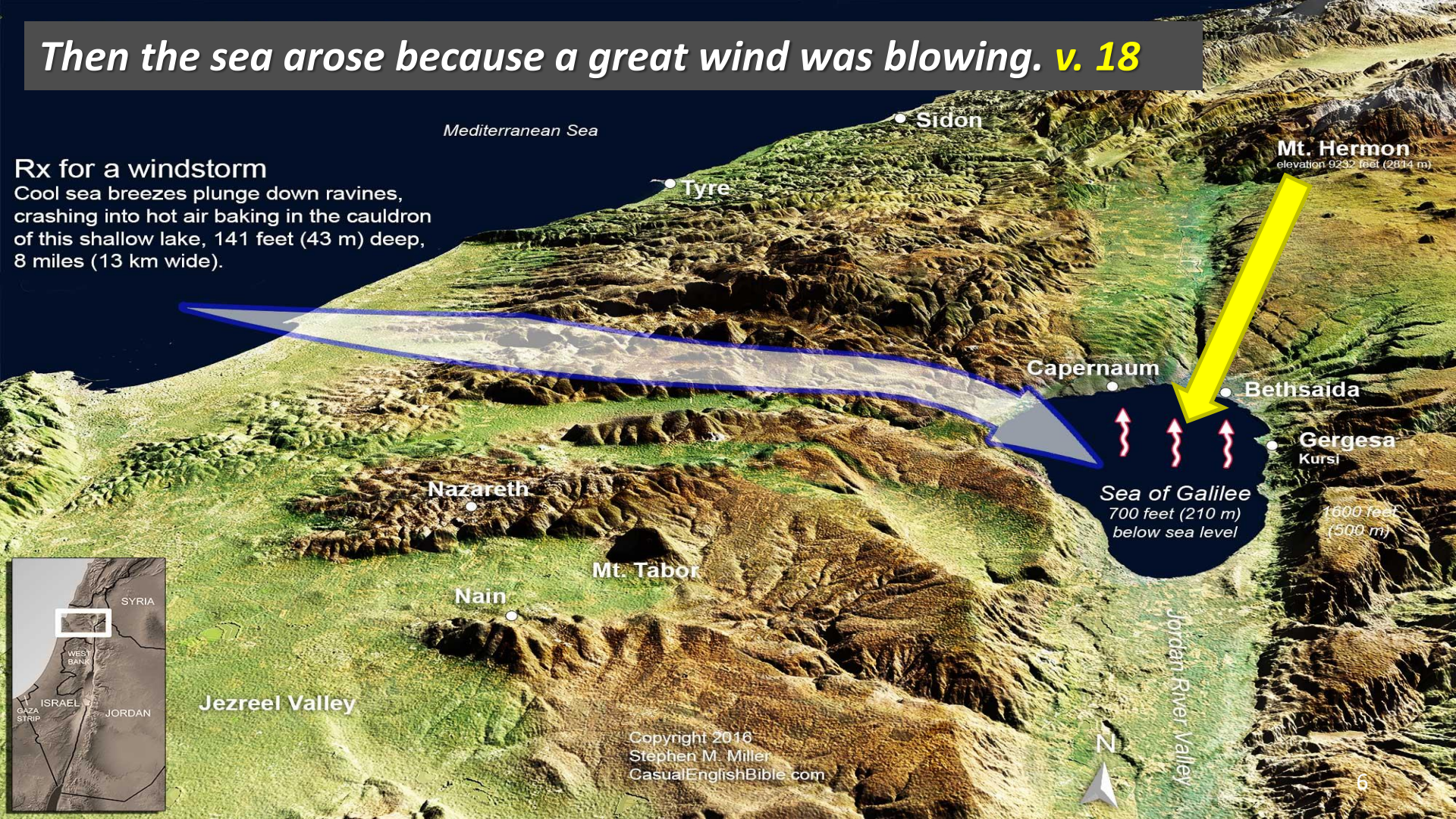
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH PETER?

- Only *Matthew's Gospel* has the extra details of Peter walking on the water to go to Jesus.
- *Mark*, as a disciple of Simon Peter, would not share something unflattering about his friend.
- *John* simply recorded that which showed the deity of Jesus; Peter was a side note to him.
- *Matthew* considered this to be a thrilling account of Christ's saving power.

Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. v. 18

Rx for a windstorm

Cool sea breezes plunge down ravines, crashing into hot air baking in the cauldron of this shallow lake, 141 feet (43 m) deep, 8 miles (13 km wide).



Mediterranean Sea

• Sidon

• Tyre

Mt. Hermon
elevation 9232 feet (2814 m)

Capernaum

• Bethsaida

• Gergesa
Kursi

Sea of Galilee
700 feet (210 m)
below sea level

1600 feet
(500 m)

Nazareth

Mt. Tabor

Nain

Jezeel Valley

Jordan River Valley

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JESUS IS ALWAYS ON TIME v. 19-21

The imminent danger of death at any moment was real as their boat could capsize and they would drown.

- Jesus does not hesitate to take on the storm.
- *But He said to them, “It is I (literally I AM); do not be afraid”—Ego Eimi—Yahweh. v. 20*

Life teaches us that sometimes there are far greater storms in our hearts than ever blew on the Sea of Galilee.

TWO TRUTHS EMERGE

Shining like stars against the darkness of the night,
against the violent storms in our lives

- 1. GOD HAS FOREKNOWLEDGE OF EVERY STORM***
- 2. GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EVERY STORM***

HOW GREAT IS OUR SAVIOR

- How Wonderful
- How Wise
- How Willing

Phil. 4:6 *Be anxious for nothing—“I got this!”*

John 6:20 *But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.”*