

# **Jesus Walks On Water**

**4-14-24**

John 6:16–21 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. <sup>20</sup> But he said to them, **“It is I; do not be afraid.”** <sup>21</sup> Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

**Here we have back-to-back two of Jesus’ most well-known miracles. After feeding the 5,000, Jesus walks on water. Matthew and Mark give a much more detailed account of this event. Like Jesus feeding the 5,000, Jesus walking on water has a multitude of lessons and applications. Not the least, that Jesus is over all creation and not limited in any way by HIS creation. In Matthew 8:27, the disciples said, “EVEN WINDS AND SEA OBEY HIM.” And personally, we can make the legitimate application that Jesus comes to us in the storms of our own life. We learn to keep our eyes on Jesus and not sink in the raging wind and waves of our situations. Recognizing this, we will examine verse 20 and consider a truth that Jesus is revealing. We will see this truth repeated throughout the gospel of John. **Before examining this truth, I want to remind everyone the importance of reading the Bible.** The Bible says what it says. We are so fortunate to have in our hands extremely accurate English translation examined by hundreds of scholars.**

**Plus, we have confidence that we can learn Hebrew and Greek and examine the approximate 25,000 original source documents and come up with basically the same English translation ourselves. So, we are very confident in our Bible. Of course, we can look at a multitude of commentaries for the additional insight from other people. However, reading the Bible will be proof to us if these commentaries are right or wrong. Commentaries don't prove the Bible; the Bible proves the accuracy of the commentaries. Beware of people who continually look for some word to change the meaning of our proven English translations. We have great translations, KJ, NASB, NIV, ESV, RSV, Amplified, and certain Paraphrased translations. You can look at the preface and see who the contributors to your specific translation are. Now having said this we are going to look at something Jesus said and go a little deeper examining the literal translation.**

John 6:20 (ESV)

But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."

**This is self-identification of the physical Jesus, which is an accurate translation. But also, there is a truth that is not so evident. When John writes "It is I" he uses two Greek words, *egō eimi*, which is literally translated an emphatic, I AM. A normal Greek usage could be "It is I".**

***However*, a Christian after the Resurrection and Ascension would also detect echoes of the literal "I AM," the decisive self-disclosure of God HIMSELF in the OT, as in Exodus 3:14.**

Exodus 3:14 (ESV)

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

**The Jews translated the Hebrew OT into Greek and used these same words, *egō eimi*, "I AM" in Exodus 3:14. These words are used for deity in the Greek OT. The literal "I AM" is often the self-identification for God in the Bible. There is no predicate, just I AM. In John 8:58, John these same words when Jesus was addressing the Jews, which were intended to assert Jesus' eternal pre-existence and absolute deity.**

John 8:58 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

**Notice now the emphatic intensity of Jesus' statement as HE was approaching HIS disciples when walking on water.**

John 6:20 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, "I AM (the self-existing God); do not be afraid."

Matthew 14:27 (ESV)

Immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; I AM (the self-existing God). Do not be afraid."

**Later we will see Jesus address the wicked as "I AM."**

John 18:6 (ESV)

When Jesus said to them, "I AM," they drew back and fell to the ground.

**When Jesus said “I AM” to the disciples, HE was saying I AM your propitiation and redemption through whom you have forgiveness. When Jesus said “I AM” to the wicked, HE was saying I AM your judge and destruction. When reading the remainder of the Gospel of John, pay close attention whenever Jesus uses the words, I AM.**

**This Jesus walking on the water is the Great “I AM” the self-existing God who is victorious over gravity, earthly elements, and space. HE will come into our situation. HE will take hold of our situation and bring us to shore that HE intended for us.**

John 6:21 (ESV)

Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

**To get to the other side, we just need Jesus, the great I AM, in the boat.**

**Salvation is in Jesus, the great “I AM”!**

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.