

GOD WITH US



Key Scripture: Luke 8:22-25

Feb. 6, 2022

JESUS, DO YOU CARE?

How do we know God cares?

- 1) God gets in our boat.
- 2) God stays through the storm.

Matthew 28:20, ... "*... And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"

How do we have peace during the storms?

We have faith that ...

- 1) ... Jesus knows what we don't.
- 2) ... Jesus controls what we can't.
- 3) ... Jesus is working for our good.

John 10:10 ... "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*"

How to understand apparent discrepancies in the Bible

Introduction

What are often called discrepancies or contradictions in the Bible are actually not in conflict at all. Over the past 1600 years, since the Bible has been in its current form, many discrepancies have been brought up, but none have withstood detailed and faithful interpretation of the scriptures.

When we encounter what appears to be a discrepancy or contradiction in the Bible, how can we study it?

- 1) **Examine if the verses actually contradict each other.**
The three different accounts of Jesus calming the storm have Jesus saying three slightly different things. However, these statements are complimentary rather than contradictory. Each account gives us more information rather than conflicting information.
- 2) **Know the type of literature and purpose of the text.** In proverbs 26, verses 4 and 5 obviously contradict each other. However, proverbs are not commands or laws. Proverbs are wise sayings useful in different circumstances. These two proverbs are both useful and true in different circumstances.
- 3) **Remember the Bible is not always chronological.**
Was the centurion's servant healed (Matt. 8, Luke 7) before or after Jesus plucked grain on the Sabbath (Matt. 12, Luke 6). Matthew and Luke never claimed to put events chronologically and in some cases clearly organized sections of their writings thematically.

For further study:

Title: Big Book of Bible Difficulties

By: Norman Geisler & Thomas Howe