

Keep Recognizing Jesus



...Peter...walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid... — Matthew 14:29-30

as on top of them? He could have, yet neither could be done without Peter's continuing recognition of the Lord Jesus.

We step right out with recognition of God in some things, then self-consideration enters our lives and down we go. If you are truly recognizing your Lord, you have no business being concerned about how and where He engineers your circumstances. The things surrounding you *are* real, but when you look at them you are immediately overwhelmed, and even unable to recognize Jesus. Then comes His rebuke, "...why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31). Let your actual circumstances be what they may, but keep recognizing Jesus, maintaining complete reliance upon Him.

If you debate for even one second when God has spoken, it is all over for you. Never start to

Comment: If you've lived a few years, you can probably remember when you were in charge. It was a time when you thought you could completely control your circumstances. Then as you get older, you realize that you can not. And if you're old enough, like I am, you say that you don't want to be in charge... that is to say, you do not want to rely on self. I guess that is because, self has let us down more times than not. Then too, how many circumstances in our lives can we really control. It becomes obvious. We are not up to the task at hand. But God is. And that is exactly where he wants us. Reliant on him.

The wind really was boisterous and the waves really were high, but Peter didn't see them at first. He didn't consider them at all; he simply recognized his Lord, stepped out in recognition of Him, and "walked on the water." Then he began to take those things around him into account, and instantly, down he went. Why couldn't our Lord have enabled him to walk at the bottom of the waves, as well

say, "Well, I wonder if He really did speak to me?" Be reckless immediately— totally unrestrained and willing to risk everything— by casting your all upon Him. You do not know when His voice will come to you, but whenever the realization of God comes, even in the faintest way imaginable, be determined to recklessly abandon yourself, surrendering everything to Him. It is only through abandonment of yourself and your circumstances that you will recognize Him. You will only recognize His voice more clearly through recklessness— being willing to risk your all.