



THE STORY
OF JESUS
IN THE
GOSPEL
OF MARK



FALL 2025
SPRING 2026

Calming the Sea

- Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God.
- Mark 4:35-41
- These three miracles shows that Jesus has a supernatural power and authority only God can have – authority over nature, authority over the supernatural, and authority over life and death.

Calming the Sea

- Mark tells us about Jesus' calming the storm. This is not the story of Jesus' walking on water That happens later (Mark 6). Jesus calmed the sea multiple times.
- This was the same day He had been teaching the parables. Jesus and the disciples got into the boat, and Jesus said to go to the other side of the sea, which wouldn't have been a quick trip.

Calming the Sea

- Fierce storms scared ancient people and caused them to avoid large bodies of water. In Jesus' day, Jewish people feared the sea, calling it an abyss and using it as a symbol of chaos and hell.
- For Jesus to be able to command the sea was a clear sign of His divinity. In Jewish tradition, only God could tame the winds and sea (Job 9:8; Psalm 107:29).

Calming the Sea

- When the storm came up, Jesus was asleep. Though the waves were crashing over the side of the boat, He didn't wake up. The elevated stern was the only place in the boat one could have slept without getting wet.



Calming the Sea

- Jesus' sleeping connects this story to that of the runaway prophet Jonah, who had also slept deeply on a ship during a sudden storm (Jonah 1:5).
- But Jonah was running away from his calling to preach repentance to those who were far from God, and Jesus embraced that calling.
- His sleep amid a storm shows trust in God's sovereignty.

Calming the Sea

- When the disciples woke Him, what they said – “Don’t you care if we drown?” – was strange.
- The question was about Jesus’ concern for them. This is a relational question.
- It captures not only a physical fear but a spiritual fear – our human tendency to doubt the care and presence of God in times of crisis.

Calming the Sea

- Jesus immediately got up and rebuked the wind, saying, “Quiet! Be still!”
- The word “rebuke” is interesting, like a father rebuking his child. It’s the same language Scripture uses for Him casting out demons.
- Jesus’ action was quick and simple, seemingly effortless.

Calming the Sea

- Now the disciples responded with even greater fear; they were “terrified.” Not of the storm, but of Jesus.
- They knew only God could control the wind and waves. This wasn’t a magician doing a trick or even a prophet doing a miracle with the power of God.
- This was Jesus Himself controlling nature. This made Him God.

Jesus and the Demonic

- Jesus even has authority over the demonic.
- Mark 5:1-20
- They arrived on the other side of the sea, the region of the Gerasenes.
- This was part of the Decapolis, a group of 10 Hellenistic cities on the eastern frontier of the Roman Empire.



Jesus and the Demonic

- By going there to heal someone, Jesus could show His disciples that His ministry was for the whole world, not just the Jews, without having to leave the area.
- The fact that there was a herd of pigs nearby tells us this was certainly a Gentile area.
- Jews were not allowed to raise or eat pigs.

Jesus and the Demonic

- Tombs were unclean for Jews. Going there would have made Jesus and the disciples unclean, but the man came out to meet them. Tombs were also believed to be a hotbed of demonic activity.
- Both self-mutilation and superhuman strength were typical of demonic possession. Many pagan religions involve cutting oneself in worship.

Jesus and the Demonic

- This man was so strong because of the demons possessing him that no one could bind him. He broke every chain. But this man immediately ran to Jesus and fell on his knees before Him.
- The demon knew Jesus was the Son of God, and this wasn't the first time a demon had called Him that (Mark 1:24; 3:11). The demon called God the "Most High." There is no doubt who had the authority here.

Jesus and the Demonic

- A “legion” was the largest unit of the Roman army – 4,000 to 6,000 troops.
- This was a large group of demons, the biggest “challenge” imaginable, and yet it was nothing to Jesus.
- They were terrified of Him. They begged Him to let them go into the herd of pigs.

Jesus and the Demonic

- As John later said, there is no reason for believers to fear the demonic because “he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).
- Jesus gave them permission.
- There was no doubt who was in complete control here.

Jesus and the Demonic

- The spirits went into the pigs, rushed down the bank, and drowned in the lake.
- Instead of being thankful that Jesus had gotten rid of the demons, the people begged Him to leave because of the great economic loss of about 2,000 pigs and because they were afraid of His power.
- Again, the theme is fear, not faith.

Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- Jesus has ultimate power over sickness, life and death.
- Mark 5:21-43
- By healing Jairus' daughter and the woman in this story, Jesus also showed He cared deeply about those whom society didn't necessarily view as people of great importance.

Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- Because of her bleeding, the sick woman would have been considered continually unclean.
- Her joining the crowd was a great risk, because anyone she touched would be made ritually unclean as well.
- The number 12 is significant (12 tribes, 12 apostles).

Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- This woman had such great faith that she thought that all she had to do to be healed was just to touch His cloak.
- Jesus' asking who touched His clothes was incredible considering everyone pressing around Him.
- He felt the power go out from Him. The woman also fell at His feet, just as Jairus had done, but trembling with fear of what may happen.

Jesus Had Ultimate Power



Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- In the meantime, Jairus's daughter had died, but Jesus told him not to be afraid, just believe. Again, the focus is on faith over fear.
- When Jesus said she was only asleep, they laughed at Him, indicating that, biologically, she really was dead.
- But Jesus brought her back to life with His words.

Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- Though it made Him ritually unclean, Jesus touched Jairus's daughter, just as the sick woman's touching of His cloak made Him unclean.
- But Jesus healed them both, proving that He overcomes all sin and uncleanness – not just intentional acts of wrongdoing but our entire sinful nature.

Jesus Had Ultimate Power

- Jesus has the power to heal every broken thing and make us completely new. These three stories all show us the unparalleled power and authority of Jesus.
- He was even greater than what they expected in Messiah.
- He was not only sent from God, He was God. This made the kingdom He was preaching about something completely different than they imagined.

America's Growing Political Violence Problem



CRIME SCENE TAPE FLIES IN FRONT OF A 9/11 MEMORIAL FOLLOWING THE FATAL SHOOTING OF POLITICAL ACTIVIST CHARLIE KIRK DURING AN EVENT AT UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2025, IN OREM, UTAH. (MICHAEL CIAGLO VIA GETTY IMAGES)

Death threats, assassination attempts, and political intimidation are now so frequent they barely make headlines. Another danger is how quickly we've grown used to it.

By The Editors

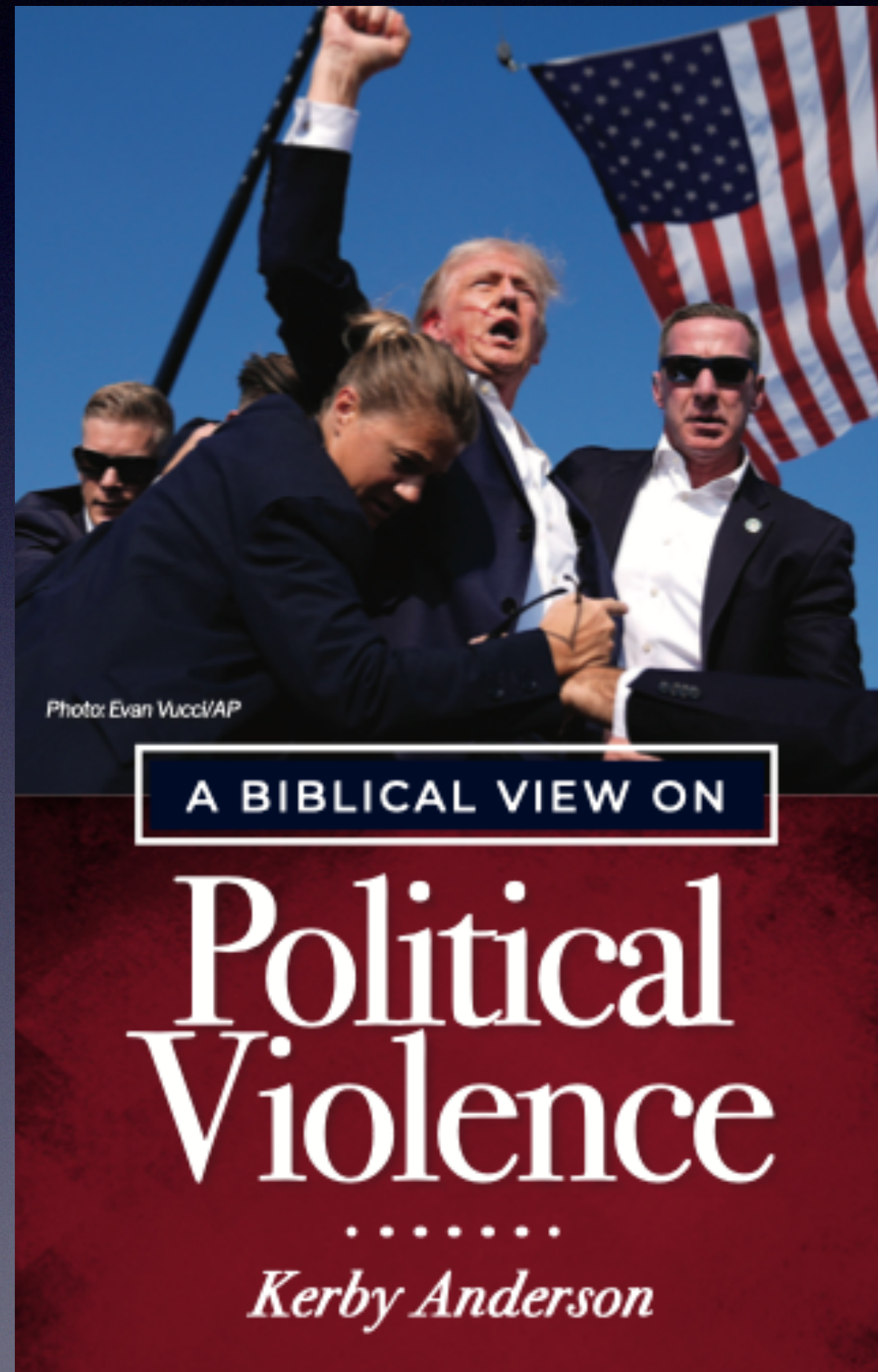
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