

Problem:

the problem of a fallen nature -Luke 6:43-45

many evangelicals believe that saving faith can arise out of our fallen natures - but Scripture plainly teaches otherwise.

Ephesians 2:1-8 (both grace and faith = feminine but the that is neuter referring to the phrase) your faith is a gift from God -it is not the price of redemption but the mechanism of redemption wrought by the Holy Spirit

in other words - regeneration precedes faith or faith is a gift

Text:**Darkness had come and Jesus had not yet come to them**

John 6:16 ¶ When evening came, **his disciples** went down to the sea,

John 6:17 got into a boat, and started across (**were going**) the sea to Capernaum. (Galilean Bethsaida a suburb- Mk 6:45) It was now dark (**darkness had already come**), **and Jesus had not yet come** to them.

Darkness- Jn 3:2; 8:12; 9:2-5; 11:8-10; 12:35-37; 13:30; 19:38-39; 20:1; 21:3-4

we cannot see God - Jn 1:1-18; 3:3

and we don't want to see God - Jn 3:19-21; 9:37-41

They see Jesus walking on the sea

John 6:18 The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.

John 6:19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw (**they see- dramatic present**) **Jesus walking on the sea** and coming near the boat, and they (**became**) were frightened.

walking on water -

mark 6:52- linked with the loaves

Jn 5:45-46; 6:28-32- linked with moses

exodus 14:19-31 linked with exodus

1 Cor 10:1-11 - real typology -new exodus from unbelief

Fear not, I AM

John 6:20 But he said to them, "It is I (**ego eime**); do not be afraid."

Fear not I Am- becomes a commissioning - exodus 3:1-15; Isaiah 6:1-8; 43:1-13; 51:9-16

- from fear to commissioning of the disciples in John 17:12-18

Then they were glad that the waters were quiet and He brought them to their desired haven (Ps 107:30)

John 6:21 Then **they were glad** to take him into the boat, and **immediately** the boat was at the land to which they were going.

John's outline - Psalm 107 (30)

ps 107:1-16- captivity (passover); 107:17-22- desert (manna); 107:23-33 (this event)

They were glad = they wanted Him - in contrast to the crowd Jn 6:25-26,

main idea: your exodus from unbelief is a gift from God

implication: darkness has not overcome- Jn 1:5

Application: Eph 5:8

Main Idea:

Your exodus from unbelief is a gift from God

Implication:

Darkness has not overcome it John 1:5

Application:

unbeliever:

Jesus came to them in the storm, He came to them from the darkness

there is no problem too difficult - no sin too scandalous to keep God from saving you who will believe

believer:

no amount of unbelief can stop the gospel from doing its work

remember it worked for you Eph 5:8 - it can work for anyone - so whats holding you back?

here are some great articles for further study and discussion:

regarding faith as a gift:

<http://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/gods-gift-of-faith/>

regarding Moses in John:

http://faithbiblechurch.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/johntoolkit_mosesarticle.pdf

The doctrines of grace in the gospel of John:

<http://www.chapellibrary.org/files/8713/7643/3194/dogi.pdf>