

Walking On Water (Matthew 14:22-33)

Introduction: *A preacher just can't please everyone...*

- I. WALKING ON WATER: Trying to Keep Our Heads Above Water
 - A. We make many attempts today to “keep our heads above water”
 - B. Peter can certainly relate (Mtt. 14:28-30)
 - C. **The Sea** is a common Biblical symbol of trouble or an enemy
(for ex: Psalm 18:16-17)
 - D. I've actually written a book on the topic: **God's Battle with the Sea**
 - E. Recall what Jesus did on & with the sea and also – Revelation 21:1!
 - F. What is the “sea” in your life today? (Note Peter in Mtt. 14:31)

- II. WALKING ON WATER: A Call to New Obedience
 - A. A word of challenge (especially to us Lutherans)
 - B. We are strong on *justification* & weak on *sanctification*
 - C. That is, we talk a lot about *getting right* with God, but not a lot about *obedience*
 - D. But note Jesus' interaction with Peter (vv. 28-29)
 - E. **Eliza's words to Professor Higgins in My Fair Lady:** *Don't talk show me!!*
 - F. What Jesus did on the cross both forgives us & empowers us
 - G. Jesus' words to Peter empowers & encourages us (vv. 27-33)
 - H. The point is NOT – you must walk on water like Peter;
The point IS - Jesus conquers the “seas” in our lives & helps us do the same

Conclusion: *The fable of the birds: wings are not burdens but blessing*