



“Adrift In The Doldrums”

Scripture - Psalm 107:23-30; Matthew 8:27

Text - John 3:8

Introduction: There is an area of the ocean near the equator where the sun burns down without mercy; where the hot air moves up and away from the earth, not across the mirror of cruelly calm waters; where sailing ships sit motionless as though bound by an invisible anchor. This is the feared part of the sea they call the doldrums. Sailors would like to move toward home, but they can't. And men caught in the spiritual doldrums of the devil would like to start toward home, but they can't.

I Helplessness

1. No earthly answer
 - A. Men look to own efforts
 - a. All fail
 - B. Look to organizations
 - a. None can quite solve the problem
2. We can give up—or look up!

II Help

1. A Man of the Sea has the only answer
 - A. Born in a stable in Bethlehem
 - a. An inland town
 - B. Spent infancy in Egypt
 - a. Midst sun and sand
 - C. Grew up in Nazareth
 - a. Only one source of water—Mary's well
 - D. Visited Jerusalem
 - a. A land-bound capitol
 - E. Established His teaching/preaching/healing ministry on northwestern shore of Sea of Galilee at Capernaum
 - a. Called four followers from Sea
 - b. Used sea as pulpit
 - c. Rode on the highway of the Sea to get from place to place
 - d. Made its surface a jogging trail
 - e. Used the Sea as a giant waterbed
 - f. Found His food in the Sea
 - g. Soothed the Sea as it roared and raged in a storm of fear
 - F. What better One to help us who are caught, unable to move, in life's sea!
2. This Captain of our salvation hung on a mast-like cross and died to give us life
 - A. Before he made this sacrifice

- a. He gathered His 12 Apostles into an upper room
 - Four men of the Sea were included
- b. He taught them the meaning of His broken body, His shed blood
- B. Those who partook spiritually of His body and blood were suddenly freed from the deathly calms of the doldrums of the soul
 - a. Men started moving toward home!

Conclusion: Today, we partake of His blood and His body by believing in Him. And as we partake of these symbols, we testify to the world that He died for us that we might live for and with Him. We do show forth His death. And we testify that He is coming back. We do show forth His death until He comes again! I Corinthians 11:26

Wells of Salvation Ministries / www.wellsof salvation.com