A person is seen from behind, standing with their arms raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with golden light breaking through dark, layered clouds. The overall mood is one of spiritual awe and devotion.

Belonging to Him (Part 2)

Encountering Jesus

Healthy Personal Relationships

You must understand to important things to have a healthy, long-term personal relationship.

- 1. Who you are.**
- 2. Who *they* are.**



The Lure of the Superhero

What do superheroes give us?

- **Drama, flash, and entertainment.**
- **Awe and reverence for their amazing powers.**
- **A sense of safety, security, feeling protected.**
- **A model for courage, truth, loyalty, etc.**
- **Hope that the world can be a better place.**
- **The vindication that evil won't always win.**
- **A personal sense that hardship and limitations can be overcome.**



“Is he quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion.”

“Safe?” said Mr. Beaver.
“Who said anything about safe? ‘Course he isn’t safe. But he’s good.”

“He’s the King, I tell you.”



**“Woe is me, for I am ruined!
Because I am a man of unclean
lips...” (Isaiah 6:5)**



**“For my eyes have seen the
King, the LORD of hosts.”
(Isaiah 6:5)**



THE **FEAR** OF
GOD

The Fear of God

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7)

“Fear God and keep his commandments...this applies to every person. (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

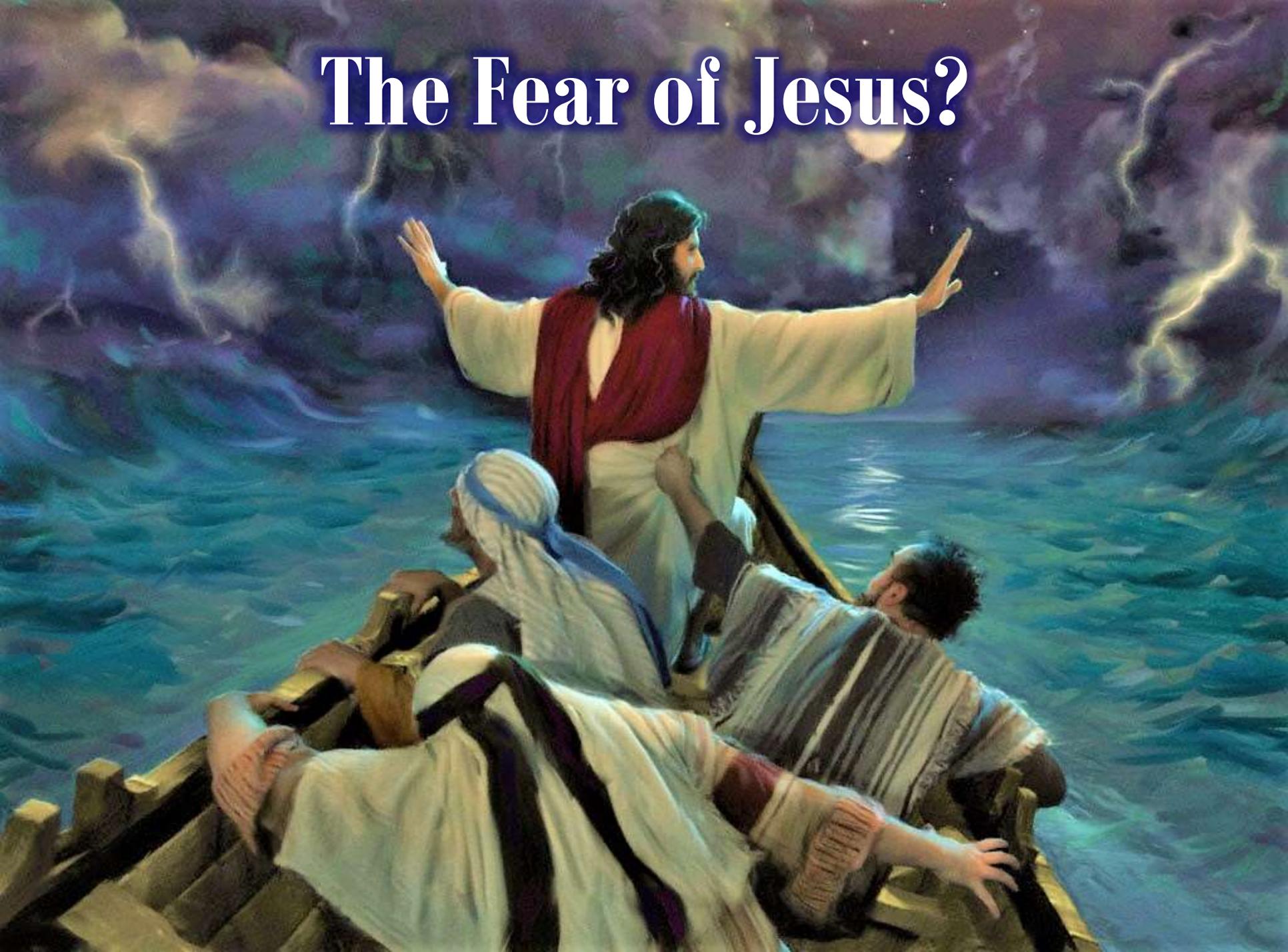
“Let those who fear the LORD say, ‘His lovingkindness is everlasting...The LORD is for me. I will not fear.’” (Psalm 118:4, 6)

The Fear of God

Other words for fear:

- Amazed
- Astonished
- Astounded
- In Awe
- To Revere
- To Wonder
- To Marvel

The Fear of Jesus?



The Fear of Jesus

The Fear of Jesus

“As they were sailing along he fell asleep and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to be swamped and to be in danger. They came to Jesus and woke him up, saying, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’” (Luke 8:23-25)

The Fear of Jesus

The Fear of Jesus

“[Jesus] got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they stopped, and it became calm. And he said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’”
(Luke 8:23-25)

The Fear of Jesus

The Amazing Lord Of Glory

“When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at his teaching. For he was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes. When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him.” (Matthew 7:28-8:1)

The Fear of Jesus

The Astonishing Lord of Deliverance

“The crowd marveled as they saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.” (Matthew 15:31)

The Fear of Jesus

The Astonishing Lord of Deliverance

“So that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...’ He said to the paralytic: ‘I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home.’ Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God. And they were filled with fear, saying, ‘We have seen remarkable things today.’” (Luke 5:17-26)

The Fear of Jesus

Fear as Unbelief

“He came to his hometown and began teaching them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, ‘Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers? Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother called Mary, and His brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?...And he did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief.’” (Matthew 13:54-55, 58)

The Fear of Jesus

Fear as Unbelief

“He entered the temple and began to drive out those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. And he would not permit anyone to carry merchandise through the temple.” (Mark 11:15-18)

The Fear of Jesus

Fear as Unbelief

“He began to teach and say to them, ‘Is it not written, “my house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations”? But you have made it a robbers’ den.’ The chief priests and the scribes heard this, and began seeking how to destroy him. For they were afraid of him, for the whole crowd was astonished at his teaching.” (Mark 11:15-18)

The Fear of Jesus

The Marvelous Lord of Life

“The Father loves the Son, and shows him all things that he himself is doing; and the Father will show him greater works than these, so that you will marvel. For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom he wishes.” (John 5:20-21)

The Fear of Jesus

The Marvelous Lord of Life

“[Jesus]...took her by the hand and called, saying, ‘Child, arise!’ And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately. And he gave orders for something to be given her to eat. Her parents were amazed. But he instructed them to tell no one what had happened.” (Luke 8:54-56)

The Fear of Jesus

The Marvelous Lord of Life

“Entering the tomb, [the women] saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe and they were amazed. And he said to them, ‘Do not be amazed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen.’...They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”
(Mark 16:5-8)

The Fear of Jesus

So, Is Jesus a Superhero?

Jesus:

- **Is REAL.**
- **Is not one of many heroes, but Almighty God in the flesh.**
- **Is absolutely superior and more powerful than his arch-enemy.**
- **Saved us by allowing the enemy to defeat him.**
- **Rescued us *permanently*.**

The Fear of Jesus

So, Is Jesus a Superhero?

Jesus:

- **Saves us from ourselves.**
 - **Offends our human instincts for what is good and best for the world.**
 - **Requires faith, change, and sacrifice.**
- **Seeks a personal relationship with all those he came to help.**
 - **...Invites us to become like him.**

The Fear of Jesus

Fear the Lord and Follow Him

“Simon Peter...fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, ‘Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!’ For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of the catch of fish which they had taken...And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men.’ When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.” (Luke 5:1-11)

The Fear of Jesus

Fear the Lord and Follow Him

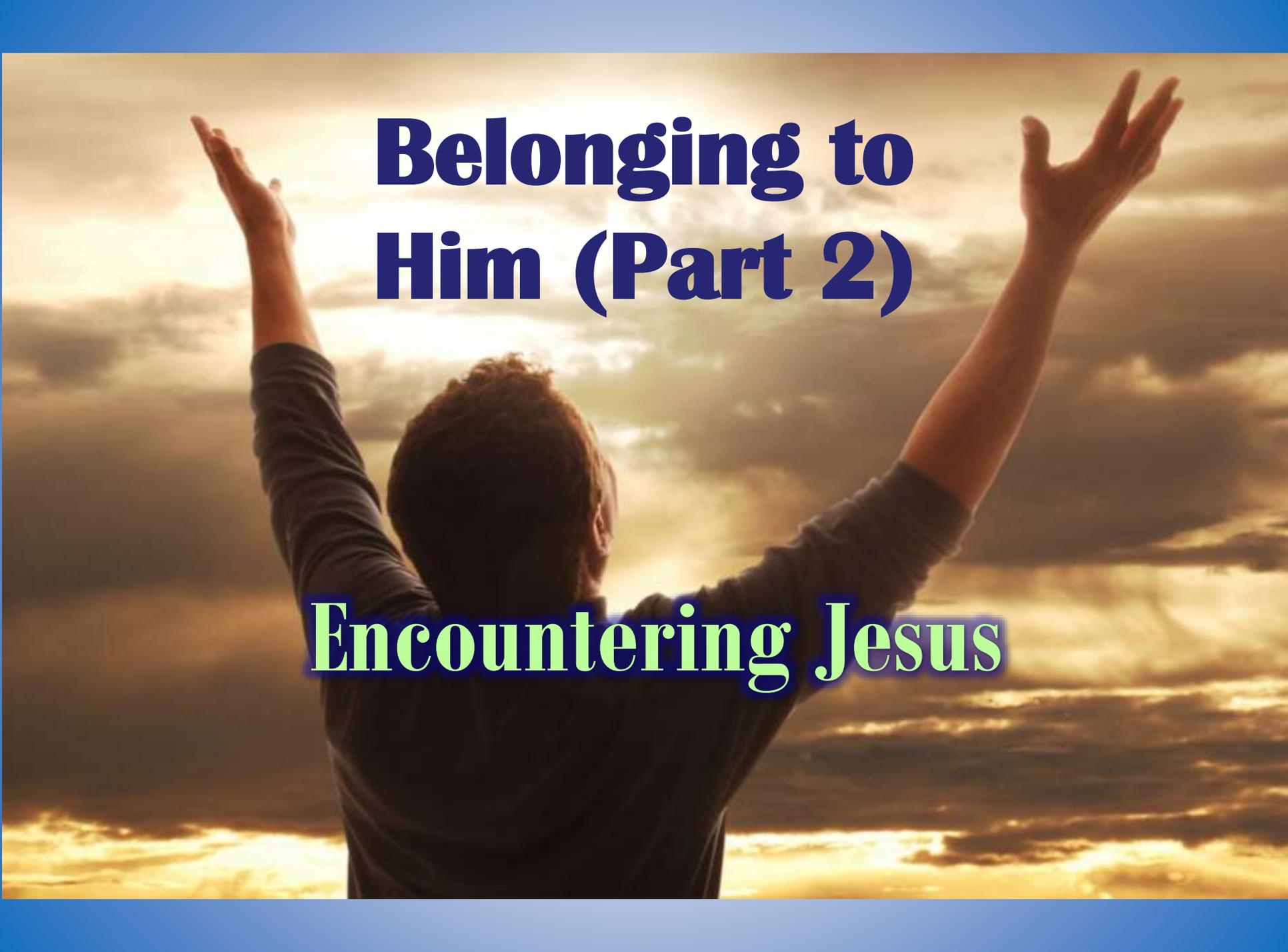
“As they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.”

(Acts 4:13-14)

The Fear of Jesus

Not Safe. But Good. Jesus Is the King!

“They sang the song of Moses...and the song of the Lamb, saying, ‘Great and marvelous are your works, O Lord God, the Almighty. Righteous and true are your ways, King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy; For all the nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.’” (Revelation 15:3-4)

A person is shown from the back, wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, with their arms raised high in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with golden light breaking through dark, layered clouds. The overall mood is one of spiritual awe and devotion.

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