



# “Dreadful Distractions”

Wed July 12, 2023

## I. **Matthew 14:22-32**

### A. The Winds and the Waves

1. There will always be opposition from the enemy, but the only way Satan can keep you from pushing forward is by distracting you from God’s Word (Go to the other side).
2. What do the winds and the waves bring to the table? Dreadful Distraction

### B. Fear of the Unknown

1. The Winds and Waves didn’t create the fear; Looking at them is what did it!
2. How many times have we allowed the enemy to distract us from the truth by putting something on the right hand or the left for us to look at? The truth is this: If we keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, we will stand.
3. **Proverbs 4:25** “Let your eyes look right on...”

## II. The People Factor

### A. **1 Samuel 15:24**

1. A profound statement to remember: Most people/friends have good intentions for you and truly want what’s best, but Most people do not know how to hear the voice of God!
2. Opinions can be some of the most dreadful distractions to your promise that there is....Just because one person did something one way, doesn’t necessarily mean you should do the same.
  - How can I know when someone is speaking by the Holy Spirit? *It will line up with the Word, It will line up with your spirit, and it will be confirmed by the mouth of 2 or 3 witnesses.*
  - And just because someone says, “Thus says the Lord...” doesn’t mean it’s from God!

### B. **John 21:20-23**

1. This is a common problem even from the beginning of man (Cain had his eyes on Abel and even the disciples had a quarrel with James and John when they wanted to sit at the right hand of God).
2. One of the ten commandments was put in place for this reason (**Exodus 20:17**).
3. Our eyes should never be on what someone else is doing, what they have or even what they don’t have.....We should not judge, carry offence, or strife....Just keep our eyes on Jesus!