

## Résumé

Peter, the Apostle, both believer and of little faith in answer to Jesus' epiphany on the sea  
By Petr Hovorka

This thesis is concerned with the passage of the Gospel according to Matthew (14, 22-36), which reveals Jesus' identity from two points of view. The miraculous event of Jesus "walk on the waves" presents Jesus as the Son of God with cosmic power over the created world, who, as the Father himself, can proclaim about himself: "I am". The following description summarizes Jesus power over illness and all evil and shows his healing power over everything, which endangers man in enjoying the fullness of life and happiness.

The textual connection with the previous event of the multiplication of bread enables us to see the revelation of Jesus as the "new Moses", who first offers bread to his people (cf. Ex 16,4-15) and next he crosses the sea (cf. Ex 14,15-22). The summary report about his healing activity resembles many others, which represent changeovers to following pericopes of Jesus' acts. Through reports as these, comparable to a chorus passage, the evangelist intends to remind the reader Jesus' basic gospelizing mission, which brings full salvation to mankind, in both body and soul.

Further extensions of the text are offered by individual biblical experts, both by enlistment into various contexts and by specific analysis of the verses. Above all, they emphasise the paschal extent of Jesus' epiphany on the sea and its symbolical meaning of this event, being an image of the church, which is being saved by the Lord from all danger.

A crucial role in the epiphany event is played by the apostle Peter. He eagerly throws himself into the sea to follow the Lord, but in no time he loses his faith. His salvation points even more clearly at the salvation of the disciples from the dangerous wind.

After the miracle of the "walk on waves" follows a healing miracle, both connected by a comparable requirement of faith put forward to the participants. Jesus' acts of power should not only lead to astonishment, but also to a development in faith.

The main aim of the studied passage is thus an invitation to the community of disciples, i.e. the church, to deepen their faith. The church, facing confusion, unrest and a lot of evil reveals in Jesus' acts his true identity and confesses him as the Son of God.

Key words: walk, the epiphany, the sea, healing, Peter,