

## We Are All Boats

We set sail out into the water. Everything is as it should be. The water surrounds us, but it does not overtake us. Then the storm begins to rage! The winds pick up, and the waves bash us from all around. Soon you have a major problem, the boat is no longer in the water, but the water is in the boat. We all know the danger that comes with having water in the boat. It will soon sink to the bottom and kill the passengers, because boats were not designed to have the water inside of them. We all know that a sailor would do whatever is necessary to keep this situation from happening. They would throw out precious cargo, shovel out water, and the list could go on and on.

Today, in a spiritual sense, we are all boats in the sea of the world. We embark on our journeys as Christians, as pilgrims surrounded by all of the worldly influences. We should "*abstain from every form of evil*" (1 Thessalonians 5:22). This means that we should also do whatever is needed to make sure that the world is not over taking us, that the world does not sink us. If that means letting go cargo such as our possessions, or our relationships then so be it. Jesus tells us that, "*If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell*" (Matthew 5:30). We have to be willing to store for ourselves "*treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;*" because Jesus tells us that "*where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*" If our treasures, that which we desire, is in the sea of this world than we will soon join ourselves to it. We will sink and we will perish.

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