**S.O.S. – I Need Help!**

**Psalms 40:13**

**13** [**Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-40-13/)

**INTRO:**

**\*\*The acronym, S.O.S., is used when people are in great distress and in great danger!**

**\*\*It means, “I need help right now! - not in a few hours or tomorrow or a few days from now. No, I need help right now! Have you ever felt that way?**

**1. The psalmist in Psalms 40:13 was sending out an S.O.S!**

**a. Without Question, he knew he needed the Lord’s help.**

**Psalms 40:13a Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me:**

**\*\*He did not call on nobody else but the Lord!**

**\*\*The number one place people call on the Lord is in church. The number two place is in the emergency room! The Psalmists soul was in the emergency room calling on God!**

**b. With Quickness, he knew he needed the Lord’s help.**

**Psalms 40:13b**  [**O LORD, make haste to help me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-40-13/)

**\*\*He didn’t want any delays because he needed help right then!**

**2. One preacher describe the meaning of the word “help” this way:**

**a. HELP is the cry of a mother with four children, three dogs, and two cats, one broken washing machine after a week at home, while the husband is away on a business trip.**

**b. HELP is the cry of a man sitting at a table surrounded by a stack of unpaid bills, hungry children, and an empty bank account with no job in sight.**

**c. HELP is the cry of a person who suffers from a sickness that is taking their life.**

**d. HELP is the cry of a kid as his Mama takes him down the center aisle and outside of the church to spank him because he’s acted ugly!**

**\*\* I don't know about you, but I've found myself in a position, many times, that I needed help. More than that, I've been in the place, where the only one who could possibly help me was the Lord.**

**\*\*We have often heard the acronym, S.O.S., but hardly anyone knows what the letters in S.O.S stand for and mean. (It actually stands for three different phrases. I want to give each phrase to you, and then preach from the Bible on each S.O.S. phrase.)**

**a. S.O.S. stands for Sink Or Swim!**

**b. S.O.S stands for Save Our Ship!**

**c. S.O.S stands for Save Our Souls!**

**\*\*S.O.S. was chosen because it was easy to use in Morse Code (3 dots, 3 dashes, 3 dots). No matter what the acronym stands for, all that matters is that each phrase means, I need help! There are a lot of people who need help from the Lord.**

**I. S.O.S. MEANS SINK OR SWIM**

**Acts 27: 42-44 –** [**42**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-42/)**And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the**

**prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.**

[**43**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-43/)**But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them**

**from *their* purpose; and commanded that they which could**

**swim should cast *themselves* first *into the sea*, and get to land:**

[**44**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-44/)**And the rest, some on boards, and some on *broken pieces* of**

**the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to**

**land.**

**\*\*When the Saved are in an S.O.S. – Sink Or Swim situation,**

**they must call on God for help and depend on . . .**

**A. God’s Presences**

**Acts 27:23 - For there stood by me this night the angel of God,**

**whose I am, and whom I serve.**

**\*\*God presences will be with you in a Sink or Swim situation**

**if you know God . . .**

**1. Through the Blood of His Son**

**2. Through the Blessings of His Salvation**

**3. Through the Belief of His Scripture**

**\*\*The Children of God can get the Lord’s attention, the**

**Lord’s presence, and the Lord’s help because they know Him**

**personally and have a personal relationship with Him!**

**B. God’s Plan**

**Acts 27:24, 26 -24 [Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-24/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:24)**

**[brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-24/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:24)**

**[that sail with thee.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-24/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:24) 26 [Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-26/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:26)**

**[island.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-26/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:26)**

**1. God’s Plan includes a Deliverance for the Child of God.**

**2. God’s Plan includes a Destination for the Child of God.**

**\*\*God has a plan for your problem! Trust God by trusting**

**His plan.**

**C. God’s Promise**

**Acts 27:25 [Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-25/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:25)**

**[God, that it shall be even as it was told me.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-27-25/" \o "View more translations of Acts 27:25)**

**1. Believe God, because God’s Promises are never Lies!**

**2. Believe God, because God’s Promises are never Late!**

**\*\*Paul knew that if God made him a promise, then he could**

**believe it! Oh how I wish you and I could have that much**

**faith in God and His promises!**

**D. God’s Power**

**Acts 27:44 And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to**

**land.**

**1. God has the power to make you Survive**

**2. God has the power to make you Safe**

**\*\*Are you in a Sink Or Swim – S.O.S situation today?**

**Get on the radio frequency called prayer, and cry out, “S.O.S**

**Lord I Need Help!”**

**II. S.O.S MEANS SAVE OUR SHIP**

**Luke 8:22-25 – 22 [Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-22/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:22)**

**[went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-22/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:22)**

**[us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-22/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:22)**

**[forth.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-22/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:22) 23 [But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-23/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:23)**

**[a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-23/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:23) *[with water](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-23/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:23)*[,](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-23/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:23)**

**[and were in jeopardy.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-23/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:23) 24 [And they came to him, and awoke](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-24/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:24)**

**[him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-24/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:24)**

**[rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-24/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:24)**

**[ceased, and there was a calm.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-8-24/" \o "View more translations of Luke 8:24)**

**A. With Jesus It’s Understandable**

**1. Jesus understands your Sea!**

**Luke 8:22 Let us go over unto the other side of the lake.**

**\*\*Jesus knew what they were getting into! He has called their**

**sea a lake, and He knew how to get them out of it!**

**2. Jesus understands you’re Scared!**

**Luke 8:23-24 23 and they were filled with water, and were in**

**Jeopardy. . . 24. . .awake him, saying, Master, Master, we**

**perish**

**\*\*They had a reason to be scared, but sometimes the Lord**

**allows us to get in jeopardy and be scared because that’s the**

**only way we’ll call on Him!**

**3. Jesus understands your Ship!**

**a. He can keep your ship from tipping.**

**b. He can keep your ship from tearing.**

**4. Jesus understands your Storms!**

**a. He knows how to calm your storms.**

**b. He knows how to clear your storms.**

**B. With Jesus It’s Undeniable**

**1. Undeniably, Jesus was in control while He was Sleeping!**

**2. Undeniably, Jesus was in control when He was Speaking**

**Luke 8:24b Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the**

**raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.**

**\*\*When you are in distress and need help, God is not wringing**

**his hands, pacing the floors, and taking nerve pills, talking to**

**psychiatrists, or getting shots.**

**C. With Jesus It’s Unbelievable**

**1. The Worry was Unbelievable to the Messiah**

**Luke 8:25a And he said unto them, Where is your faith?**

**2. The Wonder was Unbelievable to these Men**

**Luke 8:25b And they being afraid wondered, saying one to**

**another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth**

**even the winds and water, and they obey him.**

**\*\*Don’t have unbelief when Jesus can do unbelievable things**

**in the lives of His children!**

**III. S.O.S MEANS SAVE OUR SOULS**

**Acts 16:29-30 [29](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-29/" \o "Acts 16:29 KJV verse detail) Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and**

**came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,**

[**30**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-30/) **And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be**

**saved?**

**A. You Need the Sermon**

**I Corinthians 1:21 It pleased God by the foolishness of**

**preaching to save them that believe.**

**1. God speaks through the sermon to make you Aware.**

**a. Aware of Sin**

**b. Aware of Supplication**

**c. Aware of Salvation**

**2. God speaks through the sermon to make you Alarmed.**

**a. Alarmed about your Faults**

**b. Alarmed about your Fate**

**B. You Need the Spirit**

**1. You need the Spirit to Compel you.**

**2. You need the Spirit to Change you.**

**3. You need the Spirit to Comfort you.**

**C. You Need the Sincerity**

**\*\*Churches across America have their pews and altars filled**

**with people who do not have . . .**

**1. Sincere Regret over their Sins**

**2. Sincere Repentance of their Sins**

**\*\*Therefore, many people are not saved!**

**D. You Need the Supplication**

**1. Pray for your only help!**

**2. Pray for your only hope!**

**3. Pray for your only harmony!**

**a. Prayer produces Harmony called the Peace of God.**

**b. Prayer produces Harmony called the Praises of God.**

**E. You Need the Savior**

**1. You get the Savior by the Believing!**

**a. The Belief in His Resurrection**

**b. The Belief in His Redemption**

**c. The Belief in His Return**

**2. You get the Savior by the Blood!**

**a. Accept the Perfect Blood of Jesus.**

**b. Accept the Pure Blood of Jesus.**

**c. Accept the Precious Blood of Jesus.**

**Are you lost? Are you not right with God? Do you and your**

**family need to send out an S.O.S. signal that says Save Our**

**Souls?**

**CLOSE**

**1. If you are in a Sink Or Swim – S.O.S. situation, why not**

**come to this altar and send the signal . . . S.O.S. – I need help!**

**Illustration:**

**There was a Christian man whose plane went down on an**

**island. He built a hut out of the wreckage and anything he**

**could find on the island. He sent out and S.O.S. signal to the**

**Lord, and asked God to send him some help.**

**One evening while he was on the other side of the island, a**

**terrible storm came. Lightening hit his hut and it caught on**

**fire and burnt all night long. The man was so discouraged and**

**could not understand why things had just got so much worse**

**for him. He was so exhausted that he fell asleep under a tree**

**near the burning hut.**

**The next morning he woke up with a man standing over**

**him and in the distance a ship anchored near the island shore.**

**The man with the ship told him that they got to him as soon as they could because they had seen his S.O.S. smoke signal that he had sent out!**

**Sometimes when things get worse, that’s God working in your situation to make things so much better!**

**2. If you are in a Save Our Ship – S.O.S. situation, why not come to this altar and send the signal . . . S.O.S Lord – Save Our Ship!**

**a. Is your ship your family? b. Is your ship your friends?**

**c. Is your ship your faith? d. Is your ship your finances?**

**3. If you are in a Save Our Souls – S.O.S. situation, why not come to this altar and send the signal . . .S.O.S. Lord – My soul needs help!**

**a. Is your life is full of Sin? b. Is Your life is full of Sorrow?**

**Your life is in an S.O.S. situation, and it’s time to pray!**