

Each day of creation begins in darkness. Looking at creation in Genesis metaphorically, we can see the specific steps of our spiritual creation. The fourth watch would be ending the darkness and be about to enter the light of day four. **Genesis 1:16-19:** *16. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. 19. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.* Peter denied Jesus between midnight and the time of cock crowing, during the 3rd watch (Matthew 26:75). During the third watch, the sun and moon have not their proper place in our thinking.

The sun is a symbol for the understanding of Christ (Malachi 4:2) and the moon is a symbol for the ordinances of the law. The stars are the tidbits of light a person has from the law. **Jeremiah 31:35:** *Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divides the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name:* The moon (law) has no light of its own (Galatians 2:21; Philippians 3:9), and only reflects one-seventh of the light that falls on it. Without Christ, one cannot get very far with understanding the Bible. If a person is in the fourth watch, they are just beginning to understand the Son of God and a proper relationship to the law - i.e. they start to come out from under the law - i.e. no longer being governed by the book, but by the voice of Christ. Notice that Jeremiah says this understanding is given *which divides the sea when the waves thereof roar*, or the pride comes up. When Israel left Egypt (a type for the world), the sea was divided so that they could cross on dry land.

Jesus said: **Matthew 14:28-31:** *27. ...Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. 28. And Peter answering him said, Lord, if it be *thou*, command me to come to thee upon the waters. 29. And he said, Come. And Peter, having descended from the ship, walked upon the waters to go to Jesus. 30. But seeing the strong wind he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, Lord, save me. 31. And immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught hold of him, and says to him, O thou of little faith, why did thou doubt (Darby's Version)?* The spirit of the world (strong wind) is always contrary to truth. *O thou of little faith*, you of little spiritual understanding, do not worry. The human tendency is to often focus on the spirit and turmoil of the world (watch the daily news, focus on the evil happening in our nation and the world). Especially with a limited understanding of spiritual things, it is easy to become discouraged and sink into despair. Then, like Peter, we cry to the Lord to save us and he lets us know that he is an ever present help in time of need (Psalms 46:1).

Matthew 14:32-33: *32. And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.* When we come to know that the Son is truly the Son of the only true God (John 17:3), and not a third person of a Pagan Godhead; and when Jesus is in the ship - i.e. he is constantly in our thinking, we have peace, and the contrary spirit we carry no longer causes worry and fear; and instead we experience peace in Christ - the sea is calm (cf Revelation 15:2) and no longer casts up mire and dirt. Jesus walks on the sea, and will lift us all out of the sea. **John 16:33:** *These things have I spoken to you that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye have tribulation; but be of good courage: I have overcome the world.* Amen.