

# **Bethel Baptist Church**

## **Security Training 1/3/2021**

### **Surviving Storms**

We live in Kansas. One thing for certain in Kansas is there will be rolling thunderstorms. It happens every year. Every year there are tornadoes. It's just a fact of life in Kansas.

While tornadoes can be very dangerous, the biggest killers in a storm are flooding and lightning, and a common source of injury (to man, building, beast and crop) is hail.

As I recently found out, the beasts of the prairie have unique responses to storms. Perhaps none more so than cattle and buffalo.

When a storm comes, cattle are primarily oblivious to it. They may even seek shelter from the rain by getting under a tree – the most dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. On the open ground they will often just stand there waiting to get struck. I hear some talk of how sheep are dumb, try being around cattle for a while.

There are times when cattle run from a storm. Just think of that dynamic. Storms typically move about 35 miles per hour. A cow might hit 10 miles per hour, but not for long. So, when that first whack of hail thumps her on the bean and she takes off, she has just subjected herself to prolonged torture.

Buffalo survived on the plains for thousands of years. When a storm hits, they charge it. Buffalo are also faster than your standard Angus, with the ability of maintaining 35 miles per hour for a little distance. So as a storm rolls to the northeast (as they usually do) across the prairie, the buffalo are running southwest at about the same speed.

They pass the back of the storm and drop their heads and go back to eating.

Another great example is a ship on the sea during a storm. A good ship captain will turn the ship into the wind lest they hit either side or the stern (aft) of the ship and increase the chance of capsizing all into the sea. By turning the boat into the wind and facing the waves bow (face) forward, the ship can navigate the storm better with a lessor chance of capsizing.

### **Think About it**

Carl Chinn related a story of when he was a young man going through some crisis (usually a result of his own folly). His Dad would usually tell him, “we’re not going to get over it; we’re going to get through it.”

That is a good model for facing the storms in life. Do not just stand there and let them beat you up. If you try to outrun them, you are just prolonging the pain. You cannot get over them. If you let them hit you from the side or the back, you risk the chance of being dumped into the sea.

Face them, go through them and learn from the experience.

The sun is still there on the other side.