

LESSON 12

THE TRANSFIGURATION

JULY 15, 2020

The Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36

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Peter's response:

- *"It is good for us to be here ..."* "Pleasant, desirable, advantageous." (Arndt and Gingrich). We don't want such times to end!
 - cf. Mark 10:35-40
- *"... If you wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."*
 - Is Peter learning to **"follow"** Jesus as he asks, **"if You wish"**? (Note who responded!)
- Three tabernacles: a sacred place for each to dwell. Peter is treating the three as equals.

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Why did Peter say this?

"For he did not know what to answer; for they became terrified." (Mark 9:6)

"... not knowing what he said." (Luke 9:33; cf. James 1:19)

- It's not always necessary to say or do something!
A lot of error has been introduced under the umbrella of "we've got to do something" or "anything is better than nothing."
- Do Peter's intentions matter?

Peter putting Jesus on the same level as Moses and Elijah.

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God's response came ***"while he was still speaking ..."*** (Matthew 17:5) or ***"while he was saying this ..."*** (Luke 9:34).

"A bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said ..." (Exodus 16:10; 33:9-10; Numbers 9:15ff)

Luke records (9:34) that ***"they were afraid as they entered the cloud"*** as it had ***"overshadow(ed)"*** them.

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"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"

- Psalms 2:7; Matthew 3:17; Hebrews 1:1-8
- ***"Listen"*** – "to get by hearing, **learn** (from the mouth of **the teacher.**)" (Thayer) (Deuteronomy 18:15-19)
- Again, remember the context, stop getting out in front of Jesus and get behind and follow Him.

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"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"

Be careful:

- Who you listen to! (John 10:4-5; 1 Kings 13)
 - What you listen to! (Mark 4:24)
 - How you listen! (Luke 8:18; cf. James 1:21)
- "Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening."***
1 Samuel 3:9

Deuteronomy 18:15
*“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, **you shall listen to him.**”*

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*“When the disciples heard this, **they fell face down to the ground and were terrified.**”*
 (Matthew 17:6)

- **Do we fear the voice of God?**
 (Exodus 20:19-20; Deuteronomy 5:22ff; Matthew 27:54; Hebrews 12:25ff)
- A day will come when all will hear His voice!
 (John 5:28-29; cf. Philipians 2:9-11)

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*“As they were coming down from the mountain, **He gave them orders not to relate to anyone what they had seen, until the Son of Man rose from the dead. They seized upon that statement, discussing with one another what rising from the dead meant.**”* (Mark 9:9-10)

It was not the time.

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Key lessons:

1. The glory and majesty of God!
2. The superiority of Jesus Christ to the Law and the prophets!
3. The need to listen and learn from Him!
4. The need to listen before we speak!

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Jesus tells them to *“tell the vision to no one **until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.**”* (Matthew 17:9; cf. Mark 9:9)

Mark records that the apostles *“seized upon that **statement**”* and began *“discussing with one another what **rising from the dead meant.**”* (Mark 9:10)

- Did they not understand the concept of resurrection from the dead? (Luke 7:11ff; 8:52ff)
- Or did they fail to understand how Jesus’ resurrection aligned with their understanding of a fleshly kingdom?

They are once again *“alone”* with Jesus. (Matthew 17:8)