

The Transfiguration of Our Lord – 2024
Saturday, 2/10 at 4:00 | Sunday, 2/11 at 9:00



Jesus Reveals His Glory!

Jesus made it clear to Peter, James, and John that He is the Promised Messiah, the One sent by the Father to take away the sin of the world!

Text: Mark 9:2-9 NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: We are in the middle of a spiritual battle:

- ➔ Satan, our fallen world, and our old nature want us to *minimize or reject* Jesus!
- ➔ The Holy Spirit wants us to *keep Jesus first!*

Since keeping Jesus first is not natural, *we need these regular reminders:*

- ➔ ***We all do wrong and are helpless to save ourselves!***
- ➔ ***Jesus is God and the only way to heaven!***

Today, as we focus on Jesus' transfiguration, let us be encouraged to ☞**keep Jesus first** and ☞**listen to Jesus!**

1. **The Setting:** ² **Six days later** [after Jesus talked about His upcoming death and resurrection (8:31-33)], **Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves.**
 - a. Peter, James, and John: They were Jesus' best students, *His inner circle*. The three were with Jesus on the most important occasions; when He:
 - i. Raised the little girl to life (Mark 5:35-43).
 - ii. Described the destruction of the temple (Mark 13:3-13).
 - iii. Prayed in Gethsemane (Mark 14:33-42).
 - iv. Was transfigured (*today's text*).
 - b. Which mountain? We don't know. Six days earlier they were in Caesarea Philippi – *north of the Sea of Galilee*, so they could have gone further north to **Mt. Hermon** (9,200 feet), or south to **Mt. Tabor** (1,000 feet). A “**high mountain**” would certainly favor Mt. Herman.
2. **The Transfiguration:** **And He was transfigured before them;** ³ **and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them.**
 - a. Isaiah wrote this prophecy about the Messiah: “He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him” (Isa. 53:2). And what was true about Jesus – prior to His transfiguration? He looked like an ordinary man!

- b. Our figure is our shape or how we appear: Jesus' shape was not changed, *but His appearance was changed.*
- c. His appearance became EXTRAORDINARY: His clothes became **SUPER-RADIANT** and **EXCEEDINGLY WHITE!** Matthew wrote that Jesus' "*face shone like the sun*" (17:2)!

3. **The Heavenly Visitors:** ⁴ **Elijah appeared to them** [Peter, James, and John] **along with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus.** // Why Elijah and Moses?

- a. Moses: He received God's Law, which shows us our sin and our need for Jesus – *the Lamb of God!*
- b. Elijah: He represented the prophets, *who wrote about the coming Messiah and His saving work!*

They appeared to Jesus to encourage His human nature as He moved closer to His suffering and death.

4. **The Reaction of Peter:** ⁵ **Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles [tents], one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah."** ⁶ **For he did not know what to answer; for they became terrified.**

- a. Initial Enjoyment: Peter wanted Elijah and Moses to stay: "*let us make three [tents]*" – one for each.
- b. Peter Put Names with Faces: How? Their mountaintop experience may have been *a glimpse of heaven!* Paul wrote: "*For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known*" (1 Cor. 13:12). *Wow, it will be amazing to know everyone in eternity!*

- c. Then terrified: When they put it together – **Jesus RADIANT**, and **Moses and Elijah present** – it was OVERWHELMING and they “became terrified.”
5. **The Voice of God the Father**: ⁷ **Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them** [*like thick dark clouds blocking out the full strength of the sun*], and a voice came out of the cloud, **“This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!”**
- a. The Voice: Since **Jesus is the Son of God**, the voice came from God the Father – who sent His Son.
- b. The Command: **“listen to Him!”**
- i. Hear – With your ears wide open!
- ii. Pay Attention – Focus and think!
- iii. Obey – Do whatever Jesus says!
6. **The Abrupt Ending**: ⁸ **All at once they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone. //** They got the message: **Jesus Is God, so listen to Him!**
7. **The Command**: ⁹ **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. //** After Jesus completed His teaching, suffering, dying, and rising, **then it was time to tell the whole world!**

Let Us Pray: Dear Holy Spirit, impact us with the full force of who Jesus Is – **the Son of God in human flesh**, then move us and many others to *faithfully* **hear**, **pay attention**, and **obey!**

Website: www.BLC7500.com; **YouTube** and **Podcast**: “Benefit from the Bible”
Facebook: “Bethlehem Parma” / **Pastor**: RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915
7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134 / 440-845-2230