

The Transfiguration

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

02/10/19

Introduction:

1. Have you ever been awe struck by anything? (E.g. the first time I saw the mountains of Colorado)
2. Peter, James, and John saw the glory of Jesus on the holy mountain. This was a sight they would never forget.
3. The glory of Jesus is revealed in...

I. THE TRANSFIGURATION

A. JESUS TOOK SOME OF HIS DISCIPLES ON THE MOUNTAIN

1. He took Peter, James, and John.
2. The mountain is not named but is believed to be Mt. Hermon.
 - a. Mt. Hermon was near to their location.
 - b. Mt. Hermon was also the highest mountain in Palestine.
3. This took place six days after Peter's confession -cf. Mt 16:13-20

B. THE PHYSICAL TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

1. "His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light" - Mt 17:2
2. "His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them." -Mk 9:3
3. "As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening." -Lk 9:29
4. This served to confirm the confession that Peter had earlier made -Mt 16:16.
5. It also confirmed the words of John -Jn 1:14

II. THE CONTRAST

A. MOSES

1. He represented the Law.
2. The law could not bring us salvation
 - a. The law came through Moses, grace and truth through Jesus -Jn 1:17
 - b. The law brings a curse; Jesus redeems us from the curse -Ga 3:10-13
 - c. The law was our tutor bringing us to Christ -Ga 3:24, 25

B. ELIJAH

1. He represents the prophets.
2. The prophets could only see a glimpse of the coming Messiah.
 - a. Jesus told His disciples how truly blessed they were -Lk 10:23, 24
 - b. Peter reflects on the great blessing -1Pe 1:10, 11

III. THE GOSPEL

A. THE CONVERSATION

1. Moses, Elijah, and Jesus were discussing His death He was about to accomplish in Jerusalem -Lk 9:30, 31
2. Without the death of Jesus, salvation would not be possible for anyone; Old Testament times and New Testament times.
3. Through His death on the cross, salvation is possible -Jn 12:32, Jn 3:14, 15
4. He is the author of salvation for those who obey Him -He 5:8

B. SALVATION FOR MANKIND

1. Salvation is through the gospel -1Co 15:1-4; Ro 1:16, 17
2. We obey the gospel through baptism -Ro 6:3, 4

IV. THE VOICE

A. PETER'S OFFER

1. Peter offers to build a tabernacle for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah.
2. He is so awe struck, he does not realize what he has even said.
3. This offer was not pleasing unto God.

B. THE MESSAGE FROM HEAVEN

1. The cloud overshadowed them. They were afraid.
2. God the Father draws attention to His Son – “Hear ye Him!”

Conclusion:

1. Peter relates this incident years later -2Pe 1:16-18
2. He then gives the meaning for us -2Pe 1:19-21
 - a. The prophetic word has been confirmed; we do well to heed the word.
 - b. Scripture does not come by man's will, but by God's will.
3. What will we do with the message?
 - a. Moses had the law. Some harkened unto it while others did not.
 - b. Elijah and the prophets gave the word of the Lord to kings and citizens alike. Some listened while other persecuted the prophets of God.
 - c. The Father from heaven says, “Hear ye Him!” Peter says that we do well to heed His word. The question is, “Will we?”