

## **MARK 9:2-8 THE TRANSFIGURATION PART 2**

### **REVIEW:**

### **INTRO:**

- **What a paradox the cross is. Who could understand this strange mystery, that one could build a kingdom by dying, that victory could be gained by losing? That by being seemingly defeated one could defeat His enemies? That you could gain a crown through a cross?**
- **We must notice that there has been 6 complete days of silence. nothing recorded by any gospel writer since the revelation of Jesus as Messiah.**
- **Has the Spirit caused us to pause, contemplate and appreciate? Like the half hour pause of silence in heaven mentioned in Rev. 8.**
- **Take time to contemplate the truth that before my soul began to exist, God had prepared its redemption.**
- **It is possible that this incident take place during the feast of booths, about 6 or 7 months from the Passover?**
- **Primarily, this feast was designed to remember the wilderness journey from Egypt to Canaan, when God made the people live in booths (Lev. 23:33–43). During the time of the feast, each Israelite family was supposed to construct a booth, or sukkah, and live in it for a week (vv. 42–43). These booths were small, temporary shelters with thatched roofs of palm branches and other plants.**

### **READ MARK 9:2-8**

### **VS. 4**

- **Imagine this scene:**
- **It is interesting to recall that the Pharisees asked Jesus for a sign from heaven, but none was given them. Mk.8:11, Mt. 16:1.**
- **Moses and Elijah appear and must have been introduced to the disciples by Christ, for how could they have known these O.T. Saints? (facebook?)**
- **What form did they appear in? For the benefit of the disciples, they must have been giving some type of bodies.**
- **Also, we get a slight glimpse into the state of those who die in Christ. They were conscience and intelligent. Not sleeping.**
- **Why Moses and Elijah, why not David, Abrahm, Adam, Joseph?**
- **Both experienced a unique end of earthly life; Moses secretly buried by God Himself and Elijah caught up to paradise not tasting death.**
- **Some commentators consider Moses to represent all those who have died in Christ, while Elijah represents all those who are alive at Jesus's coming.**
- **Others think Moses represents the law, while Elijah represents the prophets.**
- **Both endured hardships and brought about a deliverance.**

- For whatever reason, I am sure in their coming they cheered Christ in this time of trials.
- They talked together, what a talk that must have been.
- Luke tells us of the context of their talk, "His decease." This surely is holy ground.
- And perhaps the greatest display of the person of God since Eden.
- Jesus transfigured displaying His pre-incarnation glory, the shekinah glory cloud, the audible voice of the Father, Moses and Elijah...
- Even in heaven the topic of His passion, His decease, His exodus will be an eternal topic and contemplation.

### VS. 5 & 6

- Luke 9:32 tells us the disciples had fallen asleep, and when they had finally been wakened, by the touch of Jesus, they saw His glory.
- What have I missed? Lack of prayer, contemplation and dullness etc.
- Peter for some reason just had to speak up, to interrupt. Perhaps over excitement, surprise, fear.
- Mark says in Vs. 6 they were greatly afraid and Luke again adds that Peter did not know what he was saying.
- It would seem Peter and the others thought they should linger here on the mountain and prolong this wonder for as long as possible. Perhaps this way they could keep Christ from the cross?
- It is interesting to compare Mt., Mk., and Lk, regarding Peters address to Christ... Mt. Lord, Mk, Rabbi, and Luke, Master. Perhaps he repeated His comment?
- Anyway, we get the idea He was in a bit of shock, yet expressed reverence by the multiple divine titles.

### VS. 7

- A cloud came and overshadowed them.
- Overshadowed: Same word the angel used to inform the Virgin how she would conceive. The Holy Spirit shall overshadow you. (Lk. 1:35)
- This word expresses the exercise of great power.
- Luke adds they were fearful as they entered the cloud,
- Matt. says it was a bright cloud that overshadowed them.
- This is a different brightness than the glory that was seen in Christ and bathed Moses and Elijah.
- This cloud is known as the glory cloud, the same Shekina glory cloud that guided Israel out of Egypt, through the wilderness, and also rested on the Mercy Seat.
- We now see the Father interrupt Peter the impetuous, and focus their attention on Jesus and His words, not the vision.
- They could not build a sustaining growing faith on an experience or a vision, but on the words and personal knowledge of Jesus.
- The experience and the vision must be confirmed by the word of God.
- Both Mark and Luke say, this is my beloved Son, Hear Him.
- While Matt adds "in Whom I am will pleased," hear Him! (Mt. 17:5)

- **Hear Him:** the Greek has it, "Him be hearing."
- A present imperative meaning to hear constantly and also refers not merely to the act of hearing in the sense of listening to, but also to the act of obeying what is heard.
- There are so many voices, so many opinions, but we are to hear Him, His word. **Dt. 18:15 & 18**
- In Mt. 17:6 Matt tells us
- upon hearing the voice that the disciples fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.
- Oh, the power, wonder, awfulness and reverence in the Presence of God.
- The glory of His being revealed His divinity, the voice of God confirms and declares His Sonship.

### **VS. 8**

- Suddenly they looked around and saw no one anymore but only Jesus.
- LK. 9:36, Jesus was found alone.
- These extra special rapturous events are not intended to stay with us, but to refresh and encourage us.
- To see Jesus only. No other helpers, no other hope, no other source, no other savior and in our lives no other second causes. Go to Jesus!
- It is sometimes a hard and difficult road, but we "see Jesus." **Heb 2:8,9**

### **CONCLUSION:**

- We like the 3 disciples desire to stay on the mountain top of sensation and vision, rather than descend to the valley of reality, work and woe, where real life is lived out.
- Does fear arise in our hearts when we enter a cloud?
- The times of unknowing and helplessness, when things look threatening.
- Fear not Jesus is there and He will not leave you, He comes and encourages us, laying His hand upon us. (Lk. 9:34-36)
- There is work for us to do and we have been refreshed.
- **TABLE TALK**