

THE TRANSFIGURATION

INTRODUCTION:

The center of Mark's gospel which is also the apex of the book is in chapter 8 where Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Everything in Mark's gospel that came before this was leading up to this declaration of faith, and everything that follows flows from it. To acknowledge that Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed One, the Son of the Living God is to make the correct judgment concerning Him. In our passage for this morning, this confession of Peter is confirmed. What he affirmed by faith will be verified by sight as the divine glory of Christ is made visible.

I. JESUS TRANSFORMED (Mark 9:1-3)

- a. It was difficult for the disciples to accept that Jesus would _____; it would even be more difficult for them when it actually took place.
- b. Mark along with Matthew inform us that this preview of the kingdom of God took place _____ days after Jesus made the promise.
- c. Jesus took with Him _____, _____, and John.
- d. Mark tells us that Jesus brought them up on a high _____, just Himself and these three.
- e. _____ translates the Greek verb *metamorphoō*, from which we get the English word "metamorphosis."
- f. Jesus had possessed essential _____ from all eternity but while on earth it was veiled until this moment.

II. THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS (Mark 9:4-5)

- a. Mark relates to us that _____ appeared to them along with Moses.
- b. Moses was the most honored _____ in Israel's history, who led the exodus from Egypt when God rescued the nation of Israel from their captivity.
- c. While Moses gave and represented the Law, Elijah was its foremost _____.

III. PETER'S RESPONSE (Mark 9:5-6)

- a. You would think that after the stern rebuke _____ had received from the Lord Jesus just days earlier would have kept Peter quiet. (Matthew 17:4; Luke 9:3)
- b. Peter then made this suggestion, "*let us make three _____, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.*" (Mark 9:5b, NASB95) (Luke 9:33)
- c. It is important to understand that there were several things that prompted Peter to _____ this way.
 1. First, he had wanted the _____ to be established all along.
 2. Second, Jesus' _____ in verse one of this chapter.
 3. Third, that hope soared when Peter awoke to see Jesus _____ and conversing with Moses and Elijah.
 4. Fourth, the timing of this _____ increased Peter's hopes.

IV. THE FATHER'S DECLARATION (Mark 9:7-8)

- a. Matthew records that while Peter was still speaking a _____ overshadowed them. (Matthew 17:5,6; Luke 9:35)
- b. When God the Father finished speaking, Matthew records, "*And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, 'Get up, and do not be _____.'*" (Matthew 17:7, NASB95)
- c. Mark writes, "*All at once they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus _____.*" (Mark 9:8, NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

The apostle John when writing his gospel in his old age remembered this event that he experienced and mentioned it in the opening chapter. John wrote in John 1:14, "*And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*" (John 1:14, NASB95) Peter also remembered this experience later in his life and wrote about it in 2nd Peter 1:16-18, from our Scripture reading this

morning. Peter wrote, “*For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, ‘This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased’— and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.*” (2 Peter 1:16–18, NASB95) This experience was what Peter and John needed to give them the confidence to follow Jesus to the cross. This experience is what gave them the hope that through suffering comes glory, and again they saw Jesus glorified in His resurrection body. Peter and John understood that believers will suffer for the sake of the gospel before experiencing the glory of heaven. This suffering and these trials are worth it because we know as Paul declares in Philippians 3:20-21, “*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.*” (Philippians 3:20–21, NASB95)