



Lesson 37 – He Was Transfigured

Based on Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

- 1) Where does our lesson begin today?

Matthew 17:1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high _____ apart,

- 2) “After six days”, what was that a reference to?

Matthew 16:17-19 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my _____ which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my _____; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in _____: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Evening is drawing on as Jesus calls to His side three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, and leads them across the fields, and far up a rugged path, to a lonely mountainside. The Saviour and His disciples spent the day in traveling and teaching, and the mountain climb adds to their weariness. Christ has lifted burdens from mind and body of many sufferers; He has sent the thrill of life through their enfeebled frames; but He also is compassed with humanity, and with His disciples He is wearied with the ascent.

Presently Christ tells them that they are now to go no farther. Stepping a little aside from them, the Man of Sorrows pours out His supplications with strong crying and tears. He prays for strength to endure the test on behalf of humanity.

At first the disciples unite their prayers with His in sincere devotion; but after a time, they are overcome with weariness, and, even while trying to retain their interest in the scene, they fall asleep.

- 3) What happens next?

Luke 9:29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was _____ and glistening.

- 4) Other than the three Disciples, was Jesus alone?

Luke 9:30-31 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were _____ and _____: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

- 5) Did the Disciples wake up in time?

Luke 9:32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were _____, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

Only the three who are to witness His anguish in Gethsemane have been chosen to be with Him on the mount. Now the burden of His prayer is that they may be given a manifestation of the glory He had with the Father before the world was, that His kingdom may be revealed to human eyes, and that His disciples may be strengthened to behold it.

- 6) How did Jesus appear?

Mark 9:3 And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as _____; so as no fuller on earth can white them.



Matthew 17:2 And was _____ before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Luke 9:29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his _____ was white and glistening.

Jesus' prayer is heard. While He is bowed in lowness upon the stony ground, suddenly the heavens open, the golden gates of the city of God are thrown wide, and holy radiance descends upon the mount, enshrouding the Saviour's form. Divinity from within flashes through humanity, and meets the glory coming from above. Arising from His prostrate position, Christ stands in godlike majesty. The soul agony He had previously is gone.

7) Who was talking with Jesus on the Mount?

Matthew 17:3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias _____ with him.

The disciples, awaking, behold the flood of glory that illuminates the mount. In fear and amazement, they gaze upon the radiant form of their Master. As they become able to endure the wondrous light, they see that Jesus is not alone. Beside Him are two heavenly beings, in close converse with Him. They are Moses, who upon Sinai had talked with God; and Elijah, to whom the high privilege was given, never to come under the power of death.

8) What had Moses asked of God when he was on Mount Pisgah?

Deuteronomy 3:25 I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond _____, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.

9) Did God relent?

Deuteronomy 3:26-27 But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; _____ no more unto me of this matter. Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine _____: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

A wilderness grave was the goal of those years of toil and heart-burdening care. God had something better in mind.

10) What is God able to do?

Ephesians 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly _____ all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

11) What happened to Moses after he died?

Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the _____ of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

Moses passed under the dominion of death, but he was not to remain in the tomb. Christ Himself called him forth to life. Satan the tempter had claimed the body of Moses because of his sin; but Christ the Saviour brought him forth from the grave.

Moses upon the mount of transfiguration was a witness to Christ's victory over sin and death. He represented those who shall come forth from the grave at the resurrection of the just.



12) What will happen when Jesus returns next?

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all _____, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be _____ incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on _____.

13) How will Christ appear the second time?

Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without _____ unto salvation.

Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the _____ of his Father with the holy angels.

The Saviour's promise to the disciples was now fulfilled. Upon the mount the future kingdom of glory was represented in miniature, Christ the King, Moses a representative of the risen saints, and Elijah of the translated ones.

14) How did the Disciples respond to the wonderment they were partaking?

Luke 9:33 And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three _____; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.

15) What detail did Mark add to that?

Mark 9:6 For he wist not what to say; for they were sore _____.

The disciples do not yet comprehend the scene; but they rejoice that the patient Teacher, the meek and lowly One, who has wandered to and fro a helpless stranger, is honored by the favored ones of heaven. They believe that Elijah has come to announce the Messiah's reign, and that the kingdom of Christ is about to be set up on the earth. The memory of their fear and disappointment they would banish forever. Here, where the glory of God is revealed, they long to tarry.

16) What Happened next?

Mark 9:7 And there was a _____ that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

17) How did Matthew phrase it?

Matthew 17:5-6 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a _____ out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; _____ ye him. And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

As they beheld the cloud of glory, brighter than that which went before the tribes of Israel in the wilderness; as they heard the voice of God speak in awful majesty that caused the mountain to tremble, the disciples fell smitten to the earth. They remained prostrate, their faces were hidden.

18) What did Jesus do next?

Matthew 17:7-8 And Jesus came and _____ them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no _____ save Jesus only.

19) What else did Jesus say to them?

Matthew 17:9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus _____ them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.



Before the crown must come the cross. Not the inauguration of Christ as king, but the deace to be accomplished at Jerusalem, is the subject of their conference with Jesus. Bearing the weakness of humanity, and burdened with its sorrow and sin, Jesus walked alone in the midst of men. As the darkness of the coming trial pressed upon Him, He was in loneliness of spirit, in a world that knew Him not. Even His loved disciples, absorbed in their own doubt and sorrow and ambitious hopes, had not comprehended the mystery of His mission.

Through being overcome with sleep, the disciples heard little of what passed between Christ and the heavenly messengers. Failing to watch and pray, they had not received that which God desired to give them, a knowledge of the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. They lost the blessing that might have been theirs through sharing His self-sacrifice. Slow of heart to believe were these disciples, little appreciative of the treasure with which Heaven sought to enrich them.

20) Despite the lost blessing, what were the Disciples able to say later in their experience?

2 Peter 1:16-18 For we have not followed cunningly devised _____, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were _____ of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we _____, when we were with him in the holy mount.

They were assured that all heaven knew of the sin of the Jewish nation in rejecting Christ. They were given a clearer insight into the work of the Redeemer. They saw with their eyes and heard with their ears things that were beyond the comprehension of man. They were **“eyewitnesses of His majesty” (2 Peter 1:16)**, and they realized that Jesus was indeed the Messiah, to whom patriarchs and prophets had witnessed, and that He was recognized as such by the heavenly universe.

Are you sleepy?

Are you spiritually strong enough to receive God’s future blessings?

What does God want to reveal to you?