

**“Eyewitnesses Of His Majesty!”**  
**2 Peter 1:16-18**

**Introduction:**

1. This Morning, Let’s Return To Our Study Of 2 Peter!
    - Where Peter, Under The Inspiration & Direction Of The Holy Spirit, Is Reminding Us About The Truth!
      - In Order To Prepare Us For The False Teachers & False Teachings That We Will Face As Christians!
    - Remember 1:12-15 - In Just 4 Verses Peter Tells Us To Remember 3 Times!
      - Why Is This So Important?
      - Because If We, As Christians, Are Called To:
        - Be Grounded In The Truth!
        - Be Growing In The Truth!
        - And Be Guarding That Truth!
      - Then We Need To Always Remember The Truth!
        - Never Forget!
  2. Then, In 1:16-18, Our Text For This Morning:
    - Peter Explains In More Detail **WHY** He Is Going To Remind Us!
      - **WHY** He Is Going To “Endeavor” – “Be Diligent” – “That ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance!” (1:15)
    - It Is Because The Truth That He Is Reminding **Us** Of:
      - Is The Truth That Made A Big Impact On **Him**!
      - Read 1:16-18!
  3. There Are Certain Things In People’s Lives That Are Life-Changing & Transformational!
    - For Many It Is A Person:
      - The Person You Marry! Changed My Life! For The Better!
        - Proverbs 18:22 - “Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD!”
    - For Others It Is An Event:
      - 9/11 Made An Impact On Americans In Many Ways!
        - **IE:** Pat Tillman Was A Rising Star In The NFL - Drafted By The Arizona Cardinals In 1998 - At One Point He Was Offered A 5 Year, \$9 Million Contract By The St. Louis Rams, But Turned It Down - When 9/11 Happened, He & His Brother Decided To Join The Army, And Became An Army Ranger! This Event Made A Big Impact On Him! Willing To Die For His Country - And On 4/22/04, He Did!
    - For Even Others It Is A Big Idea:
      - For The Wright Brothers - The Big Idea Was Flying!
    - It Could Be A Combination Of These As Well!
      - What Are Some Things In Your Life That Made A Big Impact On You? The Biggest Impact?
  4. For Peter, It Was The Gospel – The Good News – Of The Person & Work Of Jesus Christ!
    - Had A Life-Changing / Transformational Impact On Him!
      - And He Wanted It To Make The Same Impact On Us!
      - Why He Was Going To Remind Us!
      - Why He Was Going To Be Diligent / Endeavor!
    - The Gospel Can Have The Same Impact On You!
      - When You Truly Believe / Trust In 3 Things:
- 1. The Reliability Of The Gospel Message!**
- The Message Of The Gospel Is Reliable!
  - 1:16 - “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty!”
    - **IE:** Indianapolis Has Several TV News Programs To Chose From - One Of The Most Popular Is Channel 13 - “Eyewitness News!” - Called This Because “Eyewitness Testimony” Is Considered To Be The Best Kind Of Reporting / Testimony / Evidence!
    - Peter Himself Was An “Eyewitness” Of The “Majesty” Of Jesus Christ!

- It Made An Impact On Him!
- He Wants It To Make An Impact On Us!
- Tells Us: His Message Is Completely Reliable!
  - Believe In It! Trust In It! Be Changed By It!
- The Words Of The Message Are Reliable! (Because:)
  - The Message Of Jesus Christ Is Not A Fable!
    - “For We Have Not Followed Cunningly Devised Fables!”
    - “Fables” - “Myths”
    - Peter & The Other Apostles Were Not Following After The Imaginations & Inventions Of Others!
    - If The Gospel Was Just A Fable - No Reason To Get Excited About It! No Big Impact!
  - The Message Of Jesus Christ Is Based On Fact!
    - “When We Made Known Unto You The Power And Coming Of Our Lord Jesus Christ!”
    - Peter & The Other Apostles Did Not Make Their Message Up - No - Like Paul Said - 1 Corinthians 15:3 - “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received!”
    - A Message Of The Power Of Jesus Christ!
      - Seen In His Birth / Life / Miracles / Resurrection / Salvation!
    - A Message Of The Purpose Of Jesus Christ!
      - His “Coming!” - Return For Those Who Trust In His Power To Save!
      - Received & Shared With Us The Complete Gospel Of Jesus Christ!
  - The Words Of This Message Are Reliable!
- The Witnesses Of The Message Are Reliable!
  - “But Were Eyewitnesses Of His Majesty!”
    - Now This Was Life-Changing! Transformational!
    - This Made A Big Impact On Peter!
  - Peter Was Not Just Telling Stories!
    - But Sharing What He Personally Saw!
  - What Did He See?
    - The “Majesty” Of Jesus Christ!
      - His Divine Splendor & Magnificence!
      - Truly Hard To Describe, But:
    - Recorded For Us 3 Places In The Synoptic Gospels!
    - Matthew 17:1-9 / Mark 9:2-8 / Luke 9:28-36!
      - Read Mark’s Account!
      - The Transfiguration Of Jesus Christ!
  - It Wasn’t Just Peter – But James & John As Well!
    - Could Confirm Each Other’s Testimony! Did!
- And This Reliable Message:
  - Made A Huge Impact On Peter!
  - Can Make A Huge Impact On You!
    - When You Truly Believe In / Trust In This Message!
  - The Message Of The Gospel Of Jesus Christ!
    - His Power & His Coming!
    - His Power To Save You From Your Sin!
    - His Coming To Receive You Unto Himself!

## 2. ***The Revelation Of The Gospel Message!***

- The Message Of The Gospel Is A Revelation!
  - 1:17 - “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!”
  - **IE:** The Bible Shows Us What Happens To People Who Came Close To The Presence Of God!
    - In Exodus 34, Moses Saw The Glory Of God!
      - And His Face Shined!
    - In Isaiah 6, Isaiah Saw The “Lord Sitting Upon A Throne, High & Lifted Up!”

- And His Ministry Was Revived!
- “Here Am I, Send Me!”
- In The Gospels, Peter, James & John Saw Jesus “Transfigured Before Them!”
- “Transfigure” - Metamorphosis - Changed Right Before Their Very Eyes!
- Jesus - “Who is the image of the invisible God!” (Colossians 1:15)
- And Their Lives Were Never The Same!
- Because The Message Of The Gospel Is A Revelation Of Jesus Christ, The Son Of The Living God!
- Peter Reminds Us Of What He Saw At The Transfiguration Of Jesus:
- A Revelation Of His Acclaim!
  - “For He (Jesus) Received From God The Father Honor!”
  - Everything That Happened At The Transfiguration, Was A Gift From God The Father To His Only Begotten Son!
    - To Encourage Him In His Life & Ministry On Earth!
    - Part Of This Gift Was “Honor!”
  - There Were 2 Other People Present At The Transfiguration!
    - Besides Peter / James / John!
    - They Were: Moses & Elijah! Two Of The Greatest Prophets Of Jewish History!
    - And Yet, They Came To Talk With & Honor Jesus!
      - Jesus Was Their Savior Too! Lord!
      - Jesus Was The Fulfillment Of Their Position & Prophecies Made Long Ago!
- A Revelation Of His Appearance!
  - “And Glory!”
  - According To The Gospel Accounts:
    - Matthew 17:2 - “His face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light!”
  - This Was His Glory In Eternity Past!
  - This Is His Glory Now!
  - This Will Be His Glory Forever! (Seen By John In Rev.)
    - Yet, It Was Hidden For A Short Time On Earth!
  - This Glory Belongs To Him!
    - A Divine Glory! He Is God The Son & Shares The Same Nature Of God The Father!
    - Which Even The Pharisees Knew Would Make “Him Equal With God!” (John 5:18)
- A Revelation Of His Approval!
  - “When There Came Such A Voice To Him From The Excellent Glory, This Is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleased!”
  - According To The Gospel Accounts:
    - Matthew 17:5 - “A Bright Cloud Overshadowed Them: And Behold A Voice Out Of The Cloud!”
  - This Cloud Was No Ordinary Cloud!
    - It Was The “Excellent Glory” Of God Himself!
    - The “Shekinah Glory” - That Belongs To God Alone!
  - This Voice Was No Ordinary Voice!
    - It Was The Voice Of God Himself!
  - And It Expressed The Approval Of God The Father!
    - For The Person / Character / Work Of His Son!
- This Revelation Is What Peter & James & John:
  - Both Saw & Heard!
  - What An Impact It Made On Them!
    - Just Imagine What They Saw / Heard!
  - Ought To Make A Huge Impact On You!
    - When You See What They Saw! Spiritual Eyes!
    - When You Hear What They Heard! Spiritual Ears!
  - His Honor! His Glory! That Voice – Of Approval!

### 3. *The Reality Of The Gospel Message!*

- The Gospel Message Is Real!
  - Peter Wants To Confirm These Things Even More!
  - 1:18 - “And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount!”
  - This Event Really Happened!
    - **IE:** There Are Some Events In History That People Still Doubt! Even Though Neil Armstrong First Walked On The Moon On July 20, 1969 - There Are Still Some Who Doubt This Was Real! Peter Does Not Want To Leave Any Room For Doubt!
  - This Event Really Happened!
    - And Made A Big Impact On Him!
    - And It Can Make A Big Impact On You Too!
- It Happened To A Real Person!
  - The Lord Jesus Christ Is Real!
    - He Is Everything He Said He Was!
    - He Did Everything He Said He'd Do!
    - He Really Was Born Of A Virgin!
    - He Really Did Live A Perfect / Sinless Life!
    - He Really Did Perform Supernatural Miracles!
    - He Really Did Die On The Cross!
    - He Really Did Arise From The Dead!
    - He Really Will “Save Them To The Uttermost That Come Unto God By Him!” (Hebrews 7:25)
    - He Really Will “Come Again And Receive You Unto Myself; That Where I Am, There Ye May Be Also!” (John 14:3)
  - The Lord Jesus Christ Is Real!
- It Happened With A Real Proclamation!
  - The Voice Was Real!
  - “And This Voice Which Came From Heaven We Heard!”
    - With Our Own Ears!
  - “This Voice!”
    - Was Distinctive & Unforgettable!
    - It Was Gripping!
      - It Gripped Peter & James & John!
      - He Wants It To Grip Us As Well!
  - Listen To What That Voice Said!
    - And Listen To Whom That Voice Spoke!
  - That Voice Was Real!
- It Happened At A Real Place!
  - The Location Was Real!
  - “When We Were With Him In The Holy Mount!”
    - Not Exactly Sure Which “Holy Mount” It Was - Some Believe Mt. Tabor Or Mt. Hermon - But It Was A Real Place, And God’s Presence Made It Holy!
  - But Peter Says That: “We Were With Him!”
    - Not At A Distance, But With Him – Close By!
    - There Was No Mistaking What They Saw & What They Heard!
  - That Place Was Real!
- This Whole Event Is Real!
  - Because Jesus Christ Is Real!
  - And The Message Of His Gospel Is Real!
  - And It Made A Huge Impact On Peter!
    - There Was A Point When He Was Afraid & Ashamed To Have Been Identified As Having Been “With Jesus” – But Now, It Was His Greatest Treasure & Motivator!
  - Will Make A Huge Impact On You!
    - When You Remember That It Is All Real!

**Conclusion:**

1. Remember: Peter Was Not The Only One On That Holy Mount!
  - When Jesus Was Transfigured!
  - John Was Too!
    - Listen To The Impact This Event Had On Him!
    - Not Just The Event – But The Person Of Jesus Christ!
    - John 1:14 - “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth!”
2. The Impact On Peter & John Was So Great:
  - That In Acts 4:13:
    - “When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus!”
  - And This Is The Impact That Jesus Christ & His Gospel Can Have On You!
    - Has It? Will It?
  - As Evangelist D. L. Moody Believed: “The world has yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to him!”
    - Make Sure It Is The Gospel That Produces The Biggest Life-Changing / Transformational Impact On Your Life! And Nothing Else!
    - So People Can “Take Knowledge Of You, That You Have Been With Jesus!”

***Grace Baptist Church  
Stephen Elmer, Pastor  
4245 North 200 West  
Greenfield, Indiana 46140  
317-326-2362  
[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)  
[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)  
[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)***