

## Lesson D9: Transfiguration on the Mountain Top

Matthew 17:1-13; Ezekiel 1:26-28; Malachi 4:4-6

### I. THE VISION (1-5)

#### A. The Significance of the Setting (1)

1. The Connection (16:28)—“six days later...”
2. The Mountain (Ex 24; 1 Kin 19)—where Moses and Elijah met with God
3. The Witnesses (Deut 19:15; 2 Cor 13:1)—two or three witnesses for credibility
4. The Theophanic Cloud (Ex 13:21 & 19:16 24:15-16; Deut 31:15; 1 Kin 8:10-11)

#### B. The Appearance of Jesus (2; Heb 1:3)—a revelation of His deity and divine glory

1. His Face (Ezek 1:26-28; Rev 1:16)—shining like the sun
2. His Clothing (Isa 9:2; Jn 1:9; 1 Jn 1:15)—white as light

#### C. The Presence of Moses and Elijah (3; Malachi 4:4-6; Jn 1:45)—Last OT prophecy;

The Law and the Prophets point to Jesus.

1. Moses Representing the Law (Jn 5:45-47)—Law and instructions for Tabernacle
2. Elijah Representing the Prophets—Iconic prophet, never died, supposed to return
3. Together Representing the OT Scripture (Lk 24:27, 44-47)—Emmaus revelation

#### D. The Voice of God (5)

1. Confirms the Identity of Jesus (Mat 3:17)—The Son of God
  - a. Prophetic Title (2 Sam 7:12-14; Psalm 2)—*The King of Israel*

b. **Unique Relationship** (Heb 3:3-6)—*Greater than Moses and Elijah*

2. **Affirms the Ministry of Jesus** (Isa 42:1)—**God’s servant, The Chosen One**

3. **Commands Attention to Jesus** (Deut 18:15-19)

a. **Stop talking.** (Hab 2:20; Col 2:9)—**God is in His Temple; silence is appropriate.**

b. **Listen to Him.** (Heb 1:1-2)—**God’s final Word, culmination of redemptive history**

## II. **THE RESPONSE OF THE DISCIPLES** (4,6)

### A. **Talking of Nonsense** (4)

1. Drawing attention to **himself**

2. **Equating** Moses and Elijah with Jesus

3. Thinking the thoughts of man, not of God

### B. **Reverence of Worship** (6; Rev 4:10, 5:14, 7:11)—**falling prostrate before God**

### C. **Terror of God** (6)—**completely overwhelmed by God’s holiness and power and glory**

## III. **THE COMFORT OF JESUS** (7-8)

### A. **The Purpose of the Incarnation** (Col 2:9)—**God can be with us without terrifying us**

### B. **The Favor of God** (Heb 4:14-16)—**“Rise”; you may approach God without fear**

## IV. **Preparation for Suffering** (9-13)

**We need a vision of Christ’s glory to sustain us through suffering. Jesus is worth everything!**

## **Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder**

(#172 in green *Trinity Hymnal*)

John Newton, 1774

1. **Let us love and sing and wonder**  
**Let us praise the Savior's name**  
**He has hushed the Law's loud thunder**  
**He has quenched Mt. Sinai's flame**  
**He has washed us with His blood (x3)**  
**He has brought us nigh to God**
  
2. **Let us love the Lord who bought us**  
**Pitied us when enemies**  
**Called us by His grace and taught us**  
**Gave us ears and gave us eyes**  
**He has washed us with His blood (x3)**  
**He presents our souls to God**
  
3. **Let us sing though fierce temptation**  
**Threatens hard to bear us down**  
**For the Lord, our strong salvation**  
**Holds in view the conqueror's crown**  
**He who washed us with His blood (x3)**  
**Soon will bring us home to God**
  
4. **Let us wonder; Grace and Justice**  
**Join and point to Mercy's store**  
**When through grace in Christ our trust is**  
**Justice smiles and asks no more**  
**He who washed us with his blood (x3)**  
**Has secured out way to God**
  
5. **Let us praise and join the chorus**  
**Of the saints enthroned on high**  
**Here they trusted Him before us**  
**Now their praises fill the sky**  
**Thou hast washed us with Thy blood (x3)**  
**Thou art worthy Lamb of God**