



Matthew 17:1-9

A. The disciples didn't understand. While they confessed His identity (Matt.16:16), they were slow to grasp His mission. Thus, Jesus articulates four "musts" to occur in the coming days (v.21). (1) I must go to Jerusalem. (2) I must suffer many things. (3) I must be killed. (4) I must be raised on the third day.

B. Peter's focus is obvious from his response (v.22). Jesus is equally as obvious (and pointed) in His rebuke (v.23). His prophecy was extremely discouraging to twelve men who had invested much to follow Him. Jesus gives them a week to think about it. Then...He takes three of them on a mountain hike they would never forget.

I. The Mountain

A. Jesus was "at home" in the world of His creation. –Whether walking out into the desert to pray or climbing a hilly trail to a place of solitude, He often left the marketplaces of business and busyness in order to be alone with the Father.

B. On the crest of a mountain, heaven seems to issue you an invitation like no where else. Luke says they climbed the mountain (probably 9200' Mt. Herman) one day and came down the next. This was a hike...a climb...a walk they would remember for the rest of their lives.

C. They needed this! The hills of Herman would reaffirm Jesus' claims as to both His identity and mission. One thing was sure—they never forgot what they saw that day (2 Pet.1:16-18).

II. Worship His Majesty

A. The transformation of Jesus, v.2.

B. The testimony of the prophets, v.3.

1. *Why these two?*

2. *What did they talk about?*

C. When Peter sensed that the heavenly guests were leaving, he sought to prolong the moment (v.4). "Lord, it is good for us to be here..." Translate: I would rather stay up here than go back down there! The very idea that visitors from the spirit realm needed Peter to build them a dwelling to escape the elements was absurd. His greatest mistake, however, was in equating all three on the same level.

III. The Holy Heavenly Intervention

A. Jesus is identified as God's Son.

B. Jesus' purpose is identified.

C. Jesus' teachings are equated with heaven's will.

IV. Lessons We Need to Learn

- The _____ of Jesus in a world of _____.
- The _____ of Jesus in a world of religious _____.
- The _____ of Jesus in a world of _____.