

INTRODUCTION:

Those of you who were in this class 7 years ago, July 26, 1959, may remember the lesson on the Transfiguration at that time. The lesson seven years ago used Matthew's account, Matt. 17:1-8 including through the 13 verse of Matthew also, as the textual basis for the lesson. Brother Leslie G. Thomas has been editor of the ANNUAL LESSON COMMENTARY SINCE 1958 when brother Roy Lanier resigned his post as editor for the past 10 years beginning in 1947 through 57.

The Transfiguration of Jesus has been described by many as the highest point in the earthly experience of our Lord which was shared with his disciples. Page 134. ALC

THE TRANSFIGURATION WAS ON A MOUNTAIN

1. The hill or upland place occupies a prominent place in the history of our Lord. Especially why, I do not know. Some examples:
 1. It was on the high ground that he preached that great Sermon on the Mount. "And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain..." Matt. 5:1.
 2. When he prayed, as he often did, he seemed to desire to retire to the mountain as in this instance: as Luke tells us.
 - (1) You may feel that you can get by without prayer, but Jesus could not.
 3. It was on the hill of Golgotha that he died. Matt.
 4. A mountain in Galilee was the meeting-place with the apostles after his Resurrection. 28:16

THE GLORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

1. It was a great pronouncement when the star passed over him at his birth in Bethlehem, and the wise men came to visit him.
2. It was a great occasion at his baptism by John when the voice of God broke the stillness with the words, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3:17
3. When in the desert, he was girding himself for the work of life, withstanding the temptation of Satan, that angels came and ministered unto him. Matt. 4:1-11
4. Now on the mount of Transfiguration, the Father acknowledges him in these words, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Hear ye him." Matt. 17:5

THE TRANSFIGURATION: THE REAL INAUGURATION OF CHRIST

1. Moses was there, the Human Giver of the Divine Law by which Israel was governed.
2. Elijah was there, the Dean of the prophets. The one who went home without seeing death.
3. Jesus was there: You are not to hear Moses, nor Elijah, but you are to hear, "My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased: Hear him." Luke 9:35

NOT KNOWING WHAT HE SAID "Let us make three tabernacles." Luke 9:33

1. Peter would retain Moses and Elijah. With such reinforcement, he thinks, the work of Jesus would be assured.
2. When the cloud had cleared away, they saw no man but Jesus only. "Saw no man but Jesus only," is one reason why I especially likes Matthew's and Mark's account over Luke.
 1. Jesus is the man we must look to: not Moses or Elijah as great as they were.

THREE THINGS ARE CLEAR TO US PRELIMINARILY. THEY ARE:

1. The necessity of hearing Jesus: what he says. "Whatsoever he saith unto
 1. What he says: "Come unto me." "Abide in me." "Follow me." you, do it." John 2:5
2. We need not to hear him if we choose to do so.
 1. We may converse with a person in a large room where many are talking. We only hear the voice of the one with whom we converse.
 2. So it is in the large room of this world: there are many voices speaking. Example:
 1. The voice of ambition that often drowns out the voice of Christ.
 2. The voice of appetite: This voice is powerful.
 3. The voice of human learning: This wisdom of the world, by wisdom knew not God.
 4. The voice of Christ. Will these other voices shut him out?
3. Our Father urges us to give our best attention to Christ. TWO THINGS WE REQUIRE: 1. A knowledge of what is right. 2. The power to do what we know is right.

JESS HALL, MINISTER

CHURCH: CR. 8-8120
RESIDENCE: 563.4729

DEARBORN VALLEY

Church of Christ

17200 WEST OUTER DRIVE DEARBORN, MICHIGAN