

The Transfiguration – Matthew 17:1-13

16:28 – What was this promise referring to? Why is important?

17:1 – Here we see the fulfilment of the promise found in verse 28. We also learn about who Jesus was referring to. Peter, James, and John. Jesus' closest group. His inner circle. If any of the disciples were to privy to the magnificent revelation that takes place here. Wouldn't you agree it should be this group of men?

17:2 - Jesus was still on earth. He had not yet gone to the cross, or the grave. He had not yet been raised from death nor ascended back to the Father, but Peter, James, and John were given this vision. What is transfiguration? It's a changing of appearance. In this case, these men were allowed to see Jesus in a glorified state. He was seen as "light" and was elevated in stature. Aside from the ascension, this event did more to solidify his identity as the divine Son of God than any of the miraculous events of His ministry.

17:3 – Moses represented the Law, while Elijah represented the prophets. Both the Law and the prophets foretold Christ's sacrificial death. What does this image depict for us? What should we "see" in the description of this event?

17:4 – What is significant about this verse? Peter's attitude and the 3 tents.

17:5 – This is where we find God in His completeness. God Spoke. Jesus was present. The Holy Spirit was the cloud. God stopped Peter from sounding ignorant in the moment. Why? Peter was placing Moses and Elijah on the same level as Christ. The Baptism (See Matt. 3:17)

17:6 – What was the response found here?

17:7,8 – "But Jesus", and at the end of verse 8, "Jesus Only". Think about these words. Jesus is the only authority. Jesus is the only one who has ever been fully "well pleasing" to God. The only way we can ever be pleasing to God is through "Jesus Only".

17:9 – Tell no one. Why?

17:10,11 – Jesus is confirming the prophecy of Malachi 4:4-6

17:12,13 – John the Baptist was not Elijah, but he came as a type of Elijah. He was the same in that He was a messenger sent by God, empowered by His Spirit to speak of the coming Christ. (See Matthew 11:14)