



“Jesus Alone”

Matthew 17:1–13

The Authority of the King

Introduction:

Our lives must be centered on Jesus alone.

1. Jesus alone can lead us to where we need to go.

Matthew 17:1 – “Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves.”

Matthew 17:2 – “And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.”

Transfigured: Greek—*metamorphoō*: to be changed, transformed.

“A change on the outside that comes from the inside.”—Warren Wiersbe

2. Jesus alone is worthy.

Matthew 17:3 – “And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.”

Luke 9:30–31 – “And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish in Jerusalem.”

Hebrews 12:2 – “looking to Jesus the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Matthew 17:4 – “Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

3. Jesus alone is qualified to be our Savior.

Matthew 17:5 – “While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!”

1 Kings 8:10 – “And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.”

Matthew 17:6 – “When the disciples heard this they fell on their faces and were terrified.”

Matthew 17:7 – “And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, “Get up, and do not be afraid.”

Matthew 17:8 – “And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.”

4. Jesus alone sees the full picture.

Matthew 17:9 – “As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.”

Matthew 17:10 – “And His disciples asked Him, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”

Malachi 4:5 – “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.”

Matthew 17:11 – “And He answered and said, “Elijah is coming and will restore all things;”

Matthew 11:13–14 – “For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.”

5. Jesus alone can bring good out of suffering.

Matthew 17:12–13 – “but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.” Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did you find new, helpful, or confusing about today’s message?
2. How easy or difficult do you find it to keep your life centered around Jesus?
3. What are some things that compete with Jesus for the center spot in your life?
4. How do you know if you are succeeding at keeping Jesus in the center of your life?
5. How have you seen Jesus bring something positive out of something negative in your own life or the life of someone else?
6. What are some ways that your faith shows up in your daily life?