

Matthew 17:1-13 | Kingdom Come

Peter, James and John, the close circle of Jesus's disciples, take a long hike to the top of a mountain with Jesus. There they were eyewitnesses of the glory of God revealed in Jesus. They see Jesus changed into his divine glory, reflected in his shining face and clothes. This transformation confirmed the words that they heard, that Jesus is the beloved Son of God.

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead." ¹⁰ And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" ¹¹ He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. ¹² But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands." ¹³ Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Matthew 17:1-13

Through this experience, Jesus revealed his deity and authority while confirming his plans. Jesus reminded them that he would suffer and die before being raised to life, but to wait to tell others until it was done. Just like the disciples, we are to see Jesus for who he is and tell others what he has done.

Discussion Questions

- What does the transformation in Jesus' appearance reveal about His nature? How did the disciples respond?
- When was the last time you walked with Jesus, having meaningful, intentional time with him? How have these times with Him have helped deepen your understanding and grow in faith?
- As you consider the transformation, how does it inform your understanding of who Jesus is? How will you respond? Or How will this change your life?
- Who was the last person you told about Jesus? Who can you share with this week?

D&A (Discipleship & Accountability)

Break up into smaller groups for prayer.

- How is your time with God?
- What are you praying for?
- What are you struggling with?
- Who are you praying for to know Jesus?
- What gospel conversations have you had this week with someone who doesn't follow Jesus?