

The Transfiguration

Matthew 17: 1-8

Verse 1: “After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.”

- A very specific number of days
 - The inner circle of Jesus’ friends
 - The focus of the story
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Verse 2: “There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.”

- The metamorphosis
 - The callback to Moses on Mt. Sinai
 - 2Cor 3:18, we are all being ‘transfigured’
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Verse 3: “Suddenly there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.”

- “Behold!”
 - The two great Old Testament Saints
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Verse 4: “Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’”

- “capturing the Kodak moment”
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Verse 5: “While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud covered them, and from the cloud a voice said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!’”

- The callback to the baptism of Jesus
 - Beloved sons and daughters
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Verse 6: “When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground, and were overcome by fear.”

- “...they fell on their faces...”
 - Not just fear, but terror!
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Verse 7: “But Jesus came and touched them. ‘Get up,’ he said. ‘Don’t be afraid.’”

- “...be not afraid.”
 - Rev 1: 13-17, “...I saw someone like a Son of Man...”
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Verse 8: ‘When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus only.’

- The importance of ‘giving our faith away’
 - What do we do with our own “mountain-top” experiences?
 - “Spiritual manna”
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