



Study Guide

Luke 9:37-45

“Jesus had to Come Down”

Pastor Patrick Bowler

4-7-2024

Consult the Scriptures:

Acts 9:1-19

Acts 26:9-18

Luke 9:28-45 (cf. Mk. 9:2-29)

*(Other Scripture referenced: Acts 8:3; 1 Tim. 6:16; Ex. 33:18-23;
Rev. 1:14-18, 6:16, 2 Pet. 1:16-21; Jn. 3:16; Lk. 19:10)*

Consult the Scholars:

John Bevere—

“The glory of the Lord is everything that makes God, God. All His characteristics, authority, power, wisdom—literally, the immeasurable, weight and magnitude of God. Nothing is hidden or held back! This is the One who put the stars in their place with His fingers and gave every one of them a name. He’s the One who measured the entire universe with His fingers— the span of His hand. The One who can pick up the whole earth, as if it were a grain of sand; He weighed every drop of water in the palm of His hand; He weighed the earth and the mountains in his scales. This is the One we can behold in our hearts and subsequently change into His image, from glory to glory!

This is the One who deeply loves us— so much so, He chose to pay the terrible judgment for our sins, so we could be a part of His family. I don’t know about you, but this really excites me!” (John Bevere, The Awe of God [Nashville, TN: W Publishing, 2023], p. 42)

Discuss:

1. What is your understanding of the glory of God? Read Acts 9:1-19 and Acts 26:9-18 and discuss. How does this account inform our understanding of God's glory? (See also 1 Tim. 6:16)
2. Read the quote from John Bevere (above) and discuss. What strikes you about this quote about the glory of God? What challenges you concerning your own understanding of the glory of God?
3. Read Luke 9:28-36 and discuss. What stands out to you about this passage? What contribution does it make concerning the glory of God?
4. Read Luke 37-43 and discuss. Pastor Patrick said the Jesus had to come down the mountain. Why did He have to come down?
5. Pastor Patrick claimed these two stories serve as a living parable, i.e., an illustration of both the incarnation of Christ and His mission here on earth. Explain.
6. In what ways do our lives resemble that of the boy in need of healing? In what ways do our lives resemble that of the father? Or the disciples? Why do we need Jesus?
7. Read Luke 9:43b-45 and discuss. How does this story connect with what precedes it (i.e., the Transfiguration and the healing)? How do these stories contrast and why is it important?
8. Pastor Patrick offered three possible responses to this week's sermon: (1) Marvel at the "majesty of God" (Lk. 9:43), (2) Cry out for healing, and (3) Come down off of the mountain. What did he mean by each of these responses and which resonates with you personally?
9. What challenged you most about this week's sermon? What new insights did you take away? What questions do you still have?