

Matthew 17 – 8 December 2019

“Show Them Jesus Effectively”

Introduction

Jesus has been in Galilee preaching, teaching & having compassion on the people.

In Matt 15 we begin to see Him attacked at every turn by the religious leaders, Scribes/Pharisees/Sadducees

Jesus is getting ready to go down to Judaea in Matthew chapter 19 where He'll die on the cross

The centrality of Jesus Christ's death on the cross is coming clearer and clearer with each passing day.

Will be spoken of thrice in this chapter (vs 3, 9,23)

It's b/c of Jesus' sacrifice that we can be converted and set free from sin and death

So tonight we'll see 3 Essentials for showing Jesus to others

1st Essential for showing Jesus to others is to give them Jesus' message (Vs 1-9)

Read Vs 1-3

1. The Transformation
 - a. Jesus metamorphosized revealing His deity
 - b. Gave disciples a preview of the kingdom
2. Moses & Elijah
 - a. This may be an indication of ID of 2 witnesses in the Tribulation time
3. The Message
 - a. Read para Luke 9:30-31; spoke of His death
 - b. The central item of business was the cross!
4. By 2 or 3 witnesses a thing is established
 - a. 3 disciples went up the mountain
 - b. 3 disciples wrote in their gospel about it

Read Vs 4

1. As M & E were leaving (Luk 9:33), Peter didn't know what to say & was afraid (Mar 9:6)

2. So, Peter directs and takes charge instead of listening or questioning.

Read Vs 5

1. The supernatural experience of seeing this glory and visitors wasn't as important as the message that they were talking about.
2. This is My beloved Son, HEAR HIM
 - a. It's not about the **men**; it was about the **message**.
 - b. It's not about supernatural actions; it was about a sacrificial atonement.
 - c. It's not about **temporary tabernacles**; it's about the **crowning** achievement of the **cross!!**

Read Vs 6-9

1. Why tell no one till after resurrection? Don't know. Could be many reasons.
2. But again, it centers us on event of the cross!
3. To be converted; a person needs to examine the message of the cross!

Now they ask a follow-up question (Vs 10-13)

Read Vs 10

1. They're thinking of (Read Mal 4:5-6)
2. Their question "We know You're Messiah and we saw Elijah *after* You came. How can this be?"

Read Vs 11

1. He refers them to time of His *second coming*.
 - a. They weren't tracking this yet!
2. Notice Malachi says he'll coming b4 the great and dreadful Day of the Lord.
3. Seems to indicate Elijah as 1 of 2 witnesses.

Read Vs 12-13

1. Now Jesus blows their mind by going deeper regarding His *first coming*!
2. Read Luke 1:17 – John came in S & P of Elijah
3. Read Matt 11:13-14 – John the Baptist is the prophesied Elijah to come
4. Prophecies have fulfillment near and far.

2nd Essential for showing Jesus to others is to show them Jesus' might (Vs 14-21)

Read Vs 14-17

1. This particular boy was cursed w/ a demon not just a disease (see vs 18)
2. Disciples had been given authority to cast out demons before (Matt 10:8)
3. Disciples had been able to cast out demons at other times, but not this time.
 - a. Seems to be ranks of demons that are harder to cast out. (Eph 6:12)
4. Jesus seems a bit frustrated that they're not yet believing all that He's provided for them by way of authority over the world, flesh and the devil.
 - a. The cross is near
 - b. They need to know by now, how to depend on *Jesus might* thru faith to conquer.
5. Notice again the end of vs 17
 - a. "Bring him to Me"

Read Vs 18-21

1. “Because of your unbelief”
2. “Faith as a grain of mustard seed” – It’s not a question of how much faith we have but what kind of faith we have.
 - a. Lots of faith in the wrong thing avails not
 - b. But even a small amount placed in Christ’s might and ability can avail much!

And now Jesus returns to the central msg (Vs 22-23)

Read Vs 22-23

1. This is the most central important message, yet they seem to blank it out and not accept it.
2. We can to that with really big news, we don’t want to hear.
 - a. We can be so stuck on what we want, we don’t accept a major change that happened in reality.

3rd Essential for showing Jesus to others is to show them Jesus' meekness (Vs 24-27)

Read Vs 24-27

1. The temple tax was collected thru the country.
2. Peter rightly declares that the tax should only be taken of those that aren't citizens.
 - a. Although it was collected from all.
 - b. Rabbis has an exemption, not to pay the tax.
3. Jesus goes *beyond* right as to not offend.
 - a. This is meekness – or restrained power.
 - b. This goes beyond doing only what is right to setting a good example for others.
 - i. Exp: The CEO doesn't have to empty the trash can, but when he does, it's great.
4. What can we do at work or at school to go above and beyond to avoid needless strife?
5. Catch a fish not go dig a hole
 - a. He puts Peter to a job he would like
 - b. B/c His yoke is easy and His burden is light

Conclusion –

We've seen 3 Essentials for showing Jesus to others

1. **Give them Jesus' Message**
2. **Show them Jesus' Might**
3. **Show them Jesus' Meekness**

This is always the way to bring people to Jesus

1. Peter did it in Acts 3
 - a. Act 3:6 – **Jesus' Might**
 - i. Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, give I thee
 - b. Acts 3:12 – **Jesus' Meekness**
 - i. Why look ye so earnestly on us as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
 - c. Acts 3:15 – **Jesus' Message**
 - i. God raised Jesus from the dead
2. Paul does this in Acts 13 & 17
3. And so we can be doing this today!