

Jesus On Purpose: The Path Of A Resurrected Heart

PART 22— “GLORY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CROSS”

The Destiny of the Resurrected Heart

Matthew 16:28–17:13

Matthew 16–17 marks a major transition.

Jesus is preparing His disciples **for the end**.

Last week, Jesus established the **IDENTITY** they needed:

“But who do YOU say that I am?”

— Matthew 16:15

Peter answered:

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (Matthew 16:16)

Before they could understand where Jesus was taking them, they had to know **WHO they were following**.

PART 21 — IDENTITY: Who is Jesus?

But now Jesus moves them from **IDENTITY to DESTINY**.

He has told them:

I will suffer.

I will die.

I will rise.

And He has told them:

Deny yourself.

Take up your cross.

Lose your life.

Follow Me.

That's a hard message.

So six days later, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up a mountain...

and shows them where the Cross is actually leading.

“He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun...” (Matthew 17:2)

The Cross is real. Suffering is real. Death is real.

But none of them are the destination. GLORY IS THE DESTINATION.

I. JESUS SHOWS THEM THE DESTINATION BEFORE THEY WALK THE ROAD

Matthew 16:28–17:2

Jesus had just said:

“There are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.” (Matthew 16:28)

Then Matthew immediately tells us:

“Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John...” (Matthew 17:1)

***There is an understanding here that takes a previous maturation/transformation of the spirit in us, by the Holy Spirit to grasp the depth. In doing research, like many ideas with items that boggle our mind there is an ancient understanding, then more modern thinking. Not that modern is bad, but I believe with time, and dullness many of the more modern ideas are infiltrated by things like fear, or a lack of understanding from those who wrote this.

I can't even promise you that at the time of these events Matthew understood what happened, but I believe at the writing of this book, he was in complete confidence of what the Holy Spirit was asking Him to convey on behalf of Jesus.

So here is my attempt to make this understandable....The idea that we have been living in the end times since the days of the apostles has created many to lose the potency of the faith Jesus has instructed us to live with, and the responsibility to maintaining that faith....hence why we have so many opinions today. But Peter does a great job not only see the future on this topic, but instructing us with the kind of eyes and heart we need to walk this out.

1Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking and refresh your memory. (2Pet 3:1)

3Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires. (2Pet 3:3)

8But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. 9The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. (2Pet 3:8,9)

(Peter's response reframes the problem by shifting perspective. He reminds readers that God's perception of time differs radically from ours, with a thousand years appearing to him as a single day ([2 Pet 3:8-10](#)). This isn't merely a poetic observation; it fundamentally challenges the assumption that delay indicates abandonment. What feels like centuries of waiting to humans may represent only a brief interval in God's eternal framework.)

Peter is re-orientating our Trust to God's "growing season" plan. That His character is divine, not negligent. The extended timeline isn't a broken promise, it's an extended opportunity for conversion. And the purpose, the responsibility that is implied here, just as Peter and the apostles have demonstrated is to keep the focus on His return and the Heart that is required and not lose any sleep over "time". Because Peter ends this chapter validating the readers' experience of delay while reorienting them toward hope and urgency, transforming their anxiety about Christ's absence into confidence in God's mercy and sovereignty.***

In the midst of confusion, because I can only imagine at the time they thought and doubled down on their own mindset that Jesus was coming on the clouds in their lifetime, and He just said Im going to die and rise again....They were probably like "*what in the world are you doing to my mind*"

So Jesus takes them up a high mountain.

And suddenly:

"He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light." (Matthew 17:2)

Now, for a moment, the veil is pulled back. THEY SEE GLORY.

And notice when Jesus shows it to them.

Immediately after telling them about: **suffering, death, the Cross, losing their lives.**

Why?

Because Jesus isn't merely preparing them to suffer.

He is showing them WHY suffering will not have the final word.

*** I often wonder a few things. 1. Why the three? 2. How does Jesus do this with us? So I want to share my answer with you.

For number 1. I think to me the way this speaks to me is that there is a component of Intimacy Jesus is showing all humanity is needed here. I think it is fair to say that only 12 disciples is pretty intimate enough, but He only takes the 3, the closest three, and within that three, we see later that there is even a deeper level...there is the ONE...(we know now that was John).

For Number 2 I can only give you a parallel explanation. When Jesus was alive, He did this live. Action, there in your face. As time has progressed the Holy Spirit has had to do the same, but in different means, but with the same assurance that He is real and so is His glory.
My testimony (I will say it in church or you can watch it on the video later) ***

II. MOSES AND ELIJAH — THE CROSS WAS ALWAYS PART OF THE PLAN

Matthew 17:3 | Luke 9:30-31

Then:

“Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.” (Matthew 17:3)

Why Moses? Why Elijah?

Moses represents the **Law**. Elijah represents the **Prophets**.

And both are standing with Jesus.

But Luke tells us what they are discussing:

“They were speaking of His departure which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:31)
His **departure**.

The Greek word Luke uses is *exodos*. EXODUS.

Moses led an exodus out of slavery.

Jesus is about to accomplish the greater Exodus through:

His suffering. His death. His resurrection.

This means Peter needs to understand something.

Jesus going to Jerusalem isn't God's plan falling apart.

THIS IS THE PLAN.

The Cross isn't an interruption. The Cross isn't Satan winning. The Cross isn't Jesus losing.

The Cross is Jesus accomplishing redemption.

Peter had just tried to stop Jesus from going there:

“This shall never happen to You.”

— Matthew 16:22

Now Moses and Elijah appear in glory...

talking about the very thing Peter wanted Jesus to avoid.

That's powerful.

III. PETER WANTS TO STAY IN THE GLORY

Matthew 17:4-5

Then Peter does something very Peter.

“Lord, it is good for us to be here.” (Matthew 17:4)

He's right!

Peter says: ***“If You wish, I will make three tabernacles here...” (Matthew 17:4)***

In other words: “LET'S STAY HERE.”

And honestly... who wouldn't?

We like the mountain.

We like: **His presence. His power. His glory. His blessing. His miracles.**

We want Christianity to stay there.

But Jesus has already told Peter: **We are going to Jerusalem.**

Peter wants to preserve the experience. Jesus is preparing him to walk through suffering.

And suddenly the Father interrupts Peter:

“This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; LISTEN TO HIM!” (Matthew 17:5)

LISTEN TO HIM. Think of the prophetic weight the Father Himself, El Shaddai, EloHim, YHWH... is putting on the plan that He Himself is orchestrating... and He is telling Peter and all the knuckleheads in the future who are scared or simply want to create an easier path, He is proclaiming. LISTEN TO JESUS What has Jesus been saying?

I must suffer. I must die. I will rise. Deny yourself. Take up your cross. Lose your life.

LISTEN TO HIM.

Peter **doesn't need another** spiritual experience.

He needs to **trust** what Jesus has already said.

That speaks directly to us.

Sometimes we keep asking God:

"Show me something."

And God is saying:

"Obey what I already showed you."

IV. WHEN EVERYTHING DISAPPEARS — JESUS REMAINS

Matthew 17:6-8

When the disciples hear the Father's voice:

***"They fell face down to the ground and were terrified."* (Matthew 17:6)**

Then:

"Jesus came to them and touched them and said, 'Get up, and do not be afraid.'" (Matthew 17:7)

And when they look up:

***"They saw no one except Jesus Himself alone."* (Matthew 17:8)**

I love that. Because when the overwhelming experience ends.

JESUS REMAINS.

Eventually the mountain moment ends.

The music stops. The conference ends. The miracle becomes a memory. The feeling fades. The season changes.

But Jesus remains.

And maybe that's part of what the Resurrected Heart has to learn.

Our faith cannot ultimately depend upon:

an experience, a feeling, a miracle, a sign, a spiritual high.

Because those moments come and go.

JESUS REMAINS.

The Father didn't say:

"Look at the experience."

He said:

"LISTEN TO MY SON."

And when everything else disappeared... Jesus remains.

V. THEY STILL HAVE TO COME DOWN THE MOUNTAIN

Matthew 17:9-13

Then: ***"As they were coming down from the mountain..." (Matthew 17:9)***

There it is. THEY HAVE TO COME DOWN.

Jesus showed them the destination... but they still have to walk the road.

And Jesus immediately brings them back to death and resurrection:

"Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead." (Matthew 17:9)

Even after the glory...Jesus talks about resurrection.

Because glory doesn't eliminate the Cross.

It explains why the Cross can be endured.

Then they ask about Elijah.

Jesus explains: ***"Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished." (Matthew 17:12)***

They understand He is speaking about John the Baptist.

And then Jesus says: ***"So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." (Matthew 17:12)***

There it is again.

They just saw Jesus shining like the sun.

And minutes later Jesus is talking about suffering.

GLORY → SUFFERING

Why does Jesus keep bringing them back?

Because He does not want them to confuse seeing the destination with having already arrived.

THE RESURRECTED HEART KNOWS WHERE IT IS GOING

This is where Part 22 lands.

Last week: IDENTITY - **Who is Jesus?**

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

This week: DESTINY **Where is Jesus going?**

Through the Cross. Through death. Through resurrection. INTO GLORY.

And if I follow Him...that's where He's taking me too.

Paul will later say:

"If we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him." (Romans 8:17)

And:

"The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us." (Romans 8:18)

"When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. (Colossians 3:4)

That is the hope of the Resurrected Heart.

WHY SHOW THEM THE GLORY NOW?

Because Jesus knows what's coming. Peter will see Him arrested. James will see opposition intensify.

John will stand near the Cross.

They will watch Jesus:

be rejected, be beaten, be mocked, bleed, suffer, and die.

And everything they see will scream: "IT'S OVER."

So before they see Jesus at His weakest... He lets them see Him in His glory.

Before they see the crown of thorns...they see the face shining like the sun.

Before His garments are stripped away...they see His garments white as light.

Before men declare Him guilty...the Father declares: **"This is My beloved Son."**

Before darkness covers Calvary...they see the light of His glory.

Because what happens at the Cross will not change **who Jesus is.**

***Some of us need to hear that about our own life: Your present suffering does not determine your final destiny. The valley does not cancel what God showed you on the mountain. The Cross does not cancel the promise. The grave does not cancel the glory.

THE QUESTION FOR THE RESURRECTED HEART

Peter wanted to stay on the mountain. But Jesus kept walking.

And that's where we have to decide what kind of Christianity we want.

Do I want Jesus only when He takes me **up the mountain**?

Or will I follow Him when He leads me **down from it**?

Do I want His glory... but not His Cross?

His presence... but not His surrender?

His Kingdom... but not His obedience?

Jesus has already told us: **"Take up your cross and follow Me."**

Now He shows us why we can. The Cross is not where the story ends.

The Resurrected Heart can walk through suffering because it has seen enough of Jesus to know:

GLORY IS ON THE OTHER SIDE.

CLOSING

Sometimes God doesn't always show us the entire road.

Maybe sometimes He simply gives us enough revelation of **Jesus** to keep walking. Like my testimony.

Peter, James, and John have seen the destination.

But now they have to come down the mountain.

And tomorrow... there will be another problem waiting for them.

Another hurting family. Another demon. Another failure. Another lesson in faith.

Because **mountain-top revelation** must survive **valley-level reality**.

!!!!That's Part 23. Next Week

But for today, remember what the Father said:

"This is My beloved Son... LISTEN TO HIM!"