

Visions and Revelations:
Message 19 — The Transfiguration of Jesus

After hearing and considering the word that was spoken, a group of brothers and sisters were inspired by some of the verses that were shared. We felt that it was helpful to reconsider these verses again to dig deeper into the burden of the message and to discover how rich it could be to us. We compiled these verses into six sections, one for each day of the week until the next message, in hopes that many other saints could spend a bit of time every day to reconsider the burden of our brother in a new light. If anyone considers some of these verses or questions and feels enriched by them, we ask you to please leave a comment on the Church in Cleveland site under the message to share your thoughts! Thanks! Grace and peace be to all the saints!

Note: These six sections are not comprehensive of the content of the message! This is just designed to be a help to get into a portion throughout the days.

DAY 1

Matthew 17:1-3

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Video timestamp: 2:43 - 6:00

After the revelation to Peter in Matthew 16, the beginning of Matthew 17 starts with “after six days.” It wasn’t immediately after the revelation when Jesus led the disciples up a mountain, but rather a period of time had passed. When the Lord gives us revelations, sometimes we need to spend “six days” to dwell on it. We may be eager to declare, “I have a revelation!” but the truth is we need to spend time in it to realize the reality of what our vision is and to prepare ourselves to be elevated. These “six days” are essential not only for our understanding, but also for God to fully gain us. Even in Genesis, it was on the sixth day that God created man. Only after the advancement through days one through five, did God decide to create man and gain someone for Himself. What is our typical response when God reveals something to us? Do we have an immediate reaction, but then after a few days we forget about it? Or do we *really* spend time contemplating it and eventually come to a point where we are elevated? I pray the Lord can continue to reveal to us what is in His heart and that we can spend the time to dwell in His riches.

DAY 2

Matthew 17:1-3

*After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, **and led them up a high mountain by themselves.** There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.*

Acts 26:19, 24

“Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision”

...Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!”

Video timestamp: 6:01 - 12:41

When we are faithful to the vision that we see, eventually we are elevated to another level. Our living becomes different. The more we're faithful, the more intimate we become with the Lord. The more we're faithful, the more there's something seemingly secret. Others begin to misunderstand us. They say, “do you have to be like this?” But when we're so close to the Lord, when we become so one with Christ, He elevates us to where He is. This isn't always the case though. Oftentimes people refuse to go up. They see a vision but there is nothing beyond that. Maybe they're unwilling to spend the “six days,” or maybe they just moved on and didn't think much of it afterwards. Regardless of the reason, if we aren't faithful to spend time in what God reveals to us, then we won't be able to advance up the mountain. We should all have a desire to be elevated because only then can God unveil something even higher: HIMSELF in all His glory! I pray we can be faithful to every vision God has revealed to us, in order for us to be elevated spiritually and for us to become one with Christ!

DAY 3

Matthew 17:2

...and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

1 Timothy 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

Video timestamp: 13:12 - 17:17

On the mountain, when Jesus unveiled Himself in transfiguration, His face shone like the sun (expressing the glory of who God really is) and His clothes became as white as the light (expressing His purity, as pure as God is pure.) “Pure” here refers to how Christ desired only God, and God was expressed through Christ. “This is the highest expression of a God-man—God manifested in flesh in glory.” For a moment, through Christ, the disciples could see God manifested in glory.

We, too, are God-men. However, though we may be called sweet, tender, or humble because of our nature being mingled with God's, no one will call us glorious. Glory belongs only to Christ. Or, glory

belongs to the purity of God and the purity of Christ. It may seem as if God is after many things—after all, He has done so much in becoming flesh, producing redemption, saving mankind, terminating the power of Satan, germinating the kingdom of God for all believers to participate in, etc.—but this whole thing was so pure. In all of it, God desires only Christ. The God-man through whom His glory could shine. That is godliness: God Himself expressed through flesh. When God is fully expressed, it is all glory.

Praise Him! To God be the glory!

DAY 4

Matthew 17:1-3

*After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there **appeared before them** Moses and Elijah, **talking with Jesus.***

Video timestamp: 19:53 - 22:50

Appeared before them, talking with Jesus. Isn't this a good picture? Christ is the real focus. Moses and Elijah appear before the disciples, yet the real thing was in talking to Jesus. So often, when we talk to people, we forget Jesus. Yet we need to realize that we are not the center, the Lord is the center. When we appear before the brothers, or are even speaking to the brothers, can it be that we talk with Jesus? Our center, focus, what occupies us, what we're here for: all should be Jesus. What is the crucial thing? With Jesus, talking with Jesus. Yet, not ignoring the disciples. This should be our lifelong pursuing and serving experience.

Oh, practice talking with Jesus today! When you are alone, talk to Jesus! When you are with the brothers, talk with Jesus! Even as you are speaking to the brothers, make sure your focus is still talking with Jesus! Let this glorious One be the real focus, the real center.

DAY 5

Matthew 17:1-3

*After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. **Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.***

Matthew 12:41-42

*The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed **a greater than Jonah is here.** The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed **a greater than Solomon is here.***

1 Kings 10: 4-5

*And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, **there was no more spirit in her.***

Video timestamp: 22:51 - 25:18, 26:44 - 27:44, 27:45 - 28:56

“What does this show? Christ is the real Moses. Christ is the real Elijah. Christ is the real law. Christ is the real prophet.”

When Peter, James, and John saw Jesus they must have been astonished by His glory! Even more so, in His transfiguration, they saw Moses and Elijah, two people very much revered in Judaism. The Pharisees proudly declared that they were disciples of Moses (John 9:28) and John the Baptist was prophesied to come in the spirit of Elijah (Luke 1:17). Earlier in Matthew, we see that the disciples had heard Jesus declare, *something greater than Solomon is here*. Solomon in all of his wisdom was so glorious that the Queen of Sheba felt overwhelmed. How much more then, the shock and astonishment of the disciples when they saw the Lord Jesus transfigured and Moses and Elijah appearing alongside Him, not adding any glory of their own, but appearing within the Lord’s glory.

After coming back to their senses from this experience, the disciples must have realized: Wow, Jesus is not just our savior but He is glory itself. All the spiritual men from the Old Testament cannot compare with Christ. Christ is the glorious One, Christ is the One who brought in the law of life, Christ is the fulfillment of all the Old testament prophecies, Christ is God’s wisdom (1 Cor 1:24), and Christ is the priest today who continually intercedes on our behalf (Heb 7:25).

Brothers and sisters, do we see how glorious our Christ is? He is not just our savior, our friend, and our comforter, but He is crowned with glory and is bringing us into glory today (Heb 2:9-10)! Brothers and sisters have you ever, in a meeting or by yourself and very much in the Lord’s presence, just had a feeling, wow this is so awesome, this is so enjoyable, and I feel so alive. He is so glorious! This, brothers and sisters, is our enjoyment in His glory!

DAY 6

Matthew 17:1-3

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Romans 9:23

in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Video timestamp: 25:19 - 26:58, 30:00 - 35:03

All of what God is doing is with His glory in view. God will never do anything that is not glorious. Do you realize this? Moses and Elijah appearing with Jesus in glory, was a declaration that the age has changed. *From age of law to age of grace. From the Old Testament age to New Testament age. And from outward God to inward God. From God of leading to the God of inward anointing. From outward, all-wise mighty God to the indwelling, operating, might of life.* Yet, not just the change of age as before, in the five visions at Jesus's birth, but the substance, the reality, the manifestation of this change in **glory!** This is the age of grace, but did you realize grace is glorious? You think God just saves you? No, He brings you into glory! Do you realize because of your environment, God just saves you or has mercy on you? No, through that, God will give you more element of glory. Hallelujah, the Christian life is a life of glory!