

5/24/15

SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR
HAS COME, WEEK 69

TITLE: A POWERFUL PREVIEW

TEXT: LUKE 9:27-36

INTRODUCTION: (1) IN REVELATION CHAPTER 1, JOHN THE BELOVED APOSTLE WHO WAS EXILED TO THE ISLAND OF PATMOS FOR HIS FAITH, WAS GIVEN A SPECIAL VISION OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST.

* IN DESCRIBING THAT VISION, JOHN WAS INSPIRED TO SAY THIS IN REVELATION 1:14-16.

** REVELATION **1:14**: **"AND HIS HEAD AND HIS HAIR WERE WHITE LIKE WHITE WOOL, LIKE SNOW; AND HIS EYES WERE LIKE A FLAME OF FIRE."**

V. 15: "AND HIS FEET WERE LIKE BURNISHED BRONZE, WHEN IT HAS BEEN CAUSED TO GLOW IN A FURNACE, AND HIS VOICE WAS LIKE THE SOUND OF MANY WATERS."

V. 16 – "AND IN HIS RIGHT HAND HE HELD SEVEN STARS; AND OUT OF HIS MOUTH CAME A SHARP TWO-EDGED SWORD; AND GET THIS, AND HIS FACE WAS LIKE THE SUN SHINING IN ITS STRENGTH."

*** NOW WHAT AN AWESOME VISION OF CHRIST JOHN HAD AS HE WAS IN THE SPIRIT ON THE **LORD'S DAY ACCORDING TO REVELATION 1:10.**

**** BUT HIS RESPONSE TO THAT VISION IS VERY INTERESTING, **IT'S FOUND IN REVELATION 1:17.**

***** **IT SAYS: "AND WHEN I SAW HIM, CHRIST, I FELL AT HIS FEET AS A DEAD MAN. AND HE LAID HIS RIGHT HAND UPON ME, SAYING, DO NOT BE AFRAID; I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST,"**

(2) NOW THE RESPONSE OF JOHN AND THE RESPONSE OF CHRIST IN THIS VISION ARE VERY SIMILAR TO THE EXPERIENCE THAT JOHN HAD SOME 6 DECADES EARLIER WHEN HE SAW THE GLORIFIED CHRIST ON THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION, OUR TEXT TODAY.

* JOHN WAS OVERWHELMED WITH TERROR AS WERE JAMES AND PETER IN MATTHEW 17:6 AND MARK 9:6, THE PARALLEL COMPANION PASSAGES TO OUR TEXT TODAY. BUT THE LOVING CHRIST COMES AND TOUCHES THEM **AND SAYS "DO NOT BE AFRAID," AS JESUS DID** WITH JOHN IN REVELATION 1 AND IN MATTHEW 17:7.

** FOR YOU SEE WHETHER IT IS A VISION OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST OR LITERALLY SEEING THE GLORIFIED CHRIST, THE RESPONSE IS THE SAME, HOLY FEAR, TERROR, REVERENCE.

*** AND NOTE THAT THIS KIND OF RESPONSE WAS NOT UNUSUAL BUT ALMOST STANDARD WHEN SOME KIND OF VEILED APPEARANCE

OR VISION OF GOD TOOK PLACE.

**** FOR EXAMPLE, ISAIAH WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE VISION OF GOD THAT HE SAW IN THE TEMPLE AND HE CRIED OUT IN ISAIAH **6:5**, "**WOE** IS ME, FOR I AM RUINED! BECAUSE I AM A MAN OF UNCLEAR LIPS, AND I LIVE AMONG A PEOPLE OF UNCLEAR LIPS; FOR MY EYES HAVE SEEN THE KING, THE LORD OF **HOSTS.**"

(3) EZEKIEL SAW SEVERAL VISIONS OF THE **LORD'S GLORY IN EZEKIEL 1:28, 3:23, 43:3 AND 44:4**, AND HIS RESPONSE WAS ALWAYS THE SAME: HE FELL ON HIS FACE.

* THEN AFTER THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO MANOAH AND HIS WIFE AND ANNOUNCED THE BIRTH OF SAMSON, MANOAH (**SAMSON'S FATHER**) **SAID TO HIS WIFE IN JUDGES 13:22: "WE SHALL SURELY DIE, FOR WE HAVE SEEN GOD."**

** JOB HAD A SIMILAR REACTION AFTER GOD SPOKE TO HIM IN JOB 42:5&6 - HE SAID: **"I HAVE HEARD OF YOU BY THE HEARING OF THE EAR, BUT NOW MY EYE SEES YOU; THEREFORE I RETRACT, I DESPISE MYSELF, I ABHOR MYSELF, I LOATHE MYSELF, AND I REPENT IN DUST AND **ASHES.**"**

*** THEN ON HIS WAY TO DAMASCUS TO PERSECUTE CHRISTIANS, SAUL OF TARSUS (BETTER KNOWN AS PAUL) SAW ON THE WAY IN ACTS 26:13&14 A LIGHT FROM HEAVEN, BRIGHTER THAN THE SUN, SHINING ALL AROUND HIM AND THOSE WHO WERE JOURNEYING WITH HIM.

**** IN RESPONSE, SAUL AND HIS COMPANIONS FELL PROSTRATE ON THE ROAD.

(4) NOW **ISN'T IT INTERESTING, THAT IN STARK** CONTRAST TO THE SILLY, FRIVOLOUS, GIGGLY, FALSE AND BOASTFUL CLAIMS OF SOME IN OUR OWN DAY WHO CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN GOD, THE REACTION OF THOSE IN SCRIPTURE WHO GENUINELY SAW GOD WAS INEVITABLY ONE OF FEAR AND REVERENCE, NOT A CASUAL NON-CHALANT BOASTFUL RESPONSE.

* FOR THOSE BROUGHT FACE TO FACE WITH THE BLAZING, HOLY GLORY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST ARE TERRIFIED, REALIZING THEIR SINFUL UNWORTHINESS TO BE IN HIS HOLY PRESENCE.

** IN FACT, SUMMARIZING THE PROPER **RESPONSE TO GOD'S HOLINESS AND MAJESTY**, THE WRITER OF HEBREWS IN HEBREWS 12:28&29 EXHORTS BELIEVERS AND SAYS: (QUOTE THEM).

*** AND BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS, WE ARE TO SERVE HIM WITH REVERENCE AND GODLY FEAR.

**** AND FEAR IS THE RESPONSE TODAY IN OUR TEXT BY PETER, JAMES AND JOHN IN MATTHEW 17 AND MARK 9, AS THEY SEE A PREVIEW OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST. THEIR RESPONSE WAS FEAR AND TERROR, THEY SAW GOD IN A SENSE.

**** **AND I'VE TITLED OUR MESSAGE TODAY, "A POWERFUL PREVIEW," AS CHRIST TRANSFIGURES BEFORE HIS INNER CIRCLE OF DISCIPLES ON WHAT IS CALLED THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION.**

(5) AND WE'LL TALK ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS EVENT AND TRY TO MAKE SOME APPLICATIONS AS WE STUDY LUKE 9:27-36.

*** AND WE'LL DO THAT BY LOOKING AT** 5 THINGS TODAY, NO. 1 THE TRUTH, V. 27; NO. 2 THE TIME, V. 28; NO. 3 THE TRANSFIGURATION, VV. 29-32; NO. 4 THE TABERNACLES, VV. 33&34; AND NO. 5 THE TEACHING, VV. 35&36.

** AND WITHOUT FURTHER INTRODUCTION,
LET'S MOVE INTO OUR STUDY TODAY BY
EXAMINING OUR FIRST POINT, THE TRUTH.
LOOK AT LUKE 9:27 PLEASE.

I. THE TRUTH, (READ V. 27)

A. NOW JESUS IS GOING TO GIVE A POWERFUL
PREVIEW OF HIS COMING GLORY TO SOME OF
HIS DISCIPLES.

* AND THIS ALSO IS A MATTER OF FACT, THE
TRUTH, FOR JESUS SAID, I SAY TO YOU
TRUTHFULLY OR TRULY I SAY TO YOU, OR I TELL
YOU THE TRUTH, OR BUT I TELL YOU TRULY,
DEPENDING ON WHICH TRANSLATION YOU
HAVE.

** AND THESE PHRASES GIVE A SPECIAL
EMPHASIS OF FACT. NOW EVERYTHING JESUS
SAID WAS TRUE, BUT HERE WE HAVE SPECIAL
EMPHASIS OF SOMETHING THAT WILL SURELY
HAPPEN. THIS PHRASE INTRODUCES AN
IMPORTANT STATEMENT.

*** BUT THIS IMPORTANT STATEMENT THAT FOLLOWS IS GREATLY MISUNDERSTOOD AND IS DIFFICULT.

**** YET THE DIFFICULTY WHICH MANY READERS HAVE EXPERIENCED WITH THIS PASSAGE CAN BE AVOIDED BY BEARING IN MIND THAT IT DID **NOT SAY, "SOME OF THOSE THAT ARE STANDING HERE SHALL NOT TASTE DEATH UNTIL THE SON OF MAN SHALL COME IN THE GLORY OF HIS FATHER WITH HIS ANGELS."**

1. BUT, UNTIL THEY SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD OR UNTIL THEY SEE THE SON OF MAN COMING IN HIS KINGDOM IN MATTHEW 16:38, THE PARALLEL TEXT.

* AND KINGDOM OR KINGDOM OF GOD IS A KEY WORD OR PHRASE HERE, AND IT IS A GREEK WORD THAT WAS OFTEN USED AS A FIGURE OF SPEECH TO MEAN ROYAL MAJESTY OR REGAL SPLENDOR, IN MUCH THE SAME WAY THAT SCEPTER HAS LONG BEEN USED FIGURATIVELY TO REPRESENT ROYAL POWER AND AUTHORITY.

** WELL USED IN THAT WAY THE GREEK WORD FOR KINGDOM HERE WOULD REFER TO A **MANIFESTATION OF JESUS' KINGLINESS RATHER** THAN HIS LITERAL EARTHLY REIGN.

*** HIS PROMISE THEREFORE COULD BE TRANSLATED ACCORDING TO A COUPLE OF **SCHOLARS, "UNTIL THEY SEE THE SON OF MAN** COMING IN HIS KINGLY SPLENDOR, OR HIS **ROYAL DIGNITY."**

**** KINGDOM CAN MEAN ROYAL MAJESTY, KINGLY SPLENDOR, NOT JUST THE REIGN OF THE MESSIAH. AND WHAT INTERPRETS IT IS THE CONTEXT.

2. FOR EXAMPLE IN MATTHEW 6:33, WE WOULD INTERPRET THE WORD **KINGDOM AS CHRIST'S** RULE AND AUTHORITY NOW IN OUR LIVES, NOT SEEKING A PHYSICAL LITERAL KINGDOM, SO THE CONTEXT MUST INTERPRET THE WORD.

* AND IN THIS CONTEXT SOME OF THE DISCIPLES **STANDING THERE WOULD "NOT TASTE DEATH"**, A JEWISH EXPRESSION THAT REFERRED TO DRINKING THE CUP OF DEATH, IN OTHER WORDS, TO DYING.

** SO SOME OF THE DISCIPLES WOULD NOT DIE UNTIL THEY SAW JESUS COMING IN HIS KINGDOM. WELL, ALL THE APOSTLES ARE DEAD AND JESUS HAS NOT COME, NOR HAS HIS KINGDOM BEEN SET UP.

*** NOW WE KNOW THAT JESUS WAS INCAPABLE EITHER OF LYING OR OF BEING MISTAKEN.

**** SO WE INTERPRET KINGDOM HERE IN A MORE SPIRITUAL SENSE BY THAT AND WHAT WILL FOLLOW. FOR THE NEXT RECORDED EVENT IN MATTHEW, MARK AND LUKE AFTER THIS STATEMENT BY JESUS, FOR YOUR OWN REFERENCE, MARK 8:38&9:1, MATTHEW 17:1-8, THE NEXT EVENT IS WHAT? THE TRANSFIGURATION.

3. AND IF YOU TAKE THE WORD KINGDOM TO MEAN ROYAL SPLENDOR OR ROYAL DIGNITY THEN YOU HAVE JESUS TALKING ABOUT HIS TRANSFIGURATION WHEN PETER, JAMES AND JOHN, THE INNER CIRCLE, WILL SEE A GLORIFIED JESUS, WHERE HIS FACE SHONE LIKE THE SUN AND HIS GARMENTS BECAME AS WHITE AS LIGHT IN MATTHEW 17:2.

* SO WHAT WE HAVE HERE FOR SOME OF THE DISCIPLES IS A POWERFUL PREVIEW OF THE KINGDOM GLORY OF THE SON OF MAN.

** THE TRANSFIGURATION WAS A GLIMPSE OF JESUS IN GLORY, GLORIFIED.

*** AND IN THIS WAY, PETER, JAMES AND JOHN DID NOT DIE BEFORE THEY SAW THE SON OF MAN COMING IN HIS ROYAL SPLENDOR, HIS KINGLY GLORY, HIS ROYAL DIGNITY.

**** THEIR EXPERIENCE WAS A POWERFUL PREVIEW OF WHAT WAS TO COME AND IT WAS AN AWESOME VIEW OF A GLORIFIED CHRIST.

4. AND IT CERTAINLY SHOWED TO THESE 3 MEN THAT JESUS WAS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, THE ONE WHO WAS THE MESSIAH, WHO WOULD COME IN GLORY WITH HIS ANGELS.

* AND TO ME THAT INTERPRETATION FITS PERFECTLY INTO THE FLOW OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN 8 DAYS.

** AND IN II PETER 1:16-18 PETER LATER TALKS ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE OF SEEING JESUS IN MAJESTY AND GLORY, AND IT SAYS:

*** V. 16 - **"FOR WE DID NOT FOLLOW CLEVERLY DEvised TALES WHEN WE MADE KNOWN TO YOU THE POWER AND COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, BUT WE WERE EYEWITNESSES OF HIS MAJESTY."** (NOW WHERE WAS PETER AN **EYEWITNESS OF CHRIST'S MAJESTY?**)

V. 17 - **"FOR WHEN HE RECEIVED HONOR AND GLORY FROM GOD THE FATHER, SUCH AN UTTERANCE AS THIS WAS MADE TO HIM BY THE MAJESTIC GLORY, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED."**

V. 18 - **"AND WE OURSELVES HEARD THIS UTTERANCE MADE FROM HEAVEN WHEN WE WERE WITH HIM ON THE HOLY MOUNTAIN."** (WHICH WAS THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION)

**** NOW PETER COMMUNICATES THAT HE WAS AN **EYEWITNESS OF CHRIST'S MAJESTY IN THE TRANSFIGURATION**, AN EYEWITNESS OF HIS ROYAL SPLENDOR, THE VISIBLE SPLENDOR OF CHRIST.

5. AND THAT HAD TO BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGING TIME, FOR HE SAW THE GLORIFIED CHRIST, AS WE WILL ONE DAY AT HIS SECOND COMING, BUT THAT POWERFUL PREVIEW MADE AN IMPRINT ON HIS HEART, THAT JESUS TRULY WAS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, THAT HE WOULD DENY HIMSELF, AND DIE FOR HIS SAVIOR ONE DAY.

* AND THAT IS THE TRUTH OF V. 27, WHAT JESUS IS TALKING ABOUT IS THE TRANSFIGURATION, NOT **HIS 2'D COMING OR HIS LITERAL KINGDOM ON THE EARTH.** WITH THAT **SAID, LOOK AT V. 28 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL LOOK AT OUR 2'D POINT.**

ii. THE TIME, (V. 28)

A. NOW THE TIME OF THE EVENT OF THE TRANSFIGURATION WAS EIGHT DAYS LATER. AND THE QUESTION ARISES HERE, EIGHT DAYS FROM WHAT?

* WELL, THE ANSWER IS THE CONVERSATION, THE SAYINGS RECORDED IN VERSES 22-27 WHERE JESUS TELLS OF HIS COMING DEATH AND RESURRECTION, FOLLOWING HIM, AND SPEAKS **OF HIS 2'D ADVENT, COMING IN THE GLORY OF HIS FATHER, AND OF THE HOLY ANGELS, THEN TELLING HIS DISCIPLES THAT SOME OF THEM WOULD NOT TASTE DEATH UNTIL THEY SAW HIM COMING IN HIS KINGDOM, LIT. HIS ROYAL SPLENDOR OM V. 27.**

** NOW EIGHT DAYS LATER, SOME OF THEM, SPECIFICALLY PETER, JAMES AND JOHN, THE INNER CIRCLE WOULD SEE JESUS IN HIS ROYAL SPLENDOR, TRANSFIGURED RIGHT BEFORE THEIR EYES, THEY WOULD GET A GLIMPSE OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST, AS THE VEIL OF HIS HUMANITY WOULD BE PULLED BACK FOR A TIME, THE FULFILLMENT OF WHAT JESUS SAID IN V. 27, OUR LAST VERSE.

*** AND LUKE WHO IS NORMALLY MORE THEMATIC THAN CHRONOLOGICAL, WILL GIVE US A SPECIFIC TIME THAT THE EVENT PREDICTED IN LUKE 9:27 WOULD TAKE PLACE.

**** HOWEVER, MATTHEW AND MARK IN THEIR GOSPEL ACCOUNTS OF THIS EVENT CONFIRMS THIS TIME IN MARK 9:2 AND MATTHEW 17:1 AS SIX DAYS.

1. NOW WE HAVE A PROBLEM, FOR LUKE IN HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT OF THE TRANSFIGURATION **SAYS "SOME 8 DAYS AFTER" OR ABOUT 8 DAYS AFTER.**

* NOW THERE IS A GOOD EXPLANATION FOR THIS. LUKE GIVES AN APPROXIMATE TIME WHICH IS COMMUNICATED BY THE WORD, ABOUT 8 DAYS LATER, GIVING US AN APPROXIMATE TIME, NOT A PRECISE TIME.

** AND MOST LIKELY LUKE WAS COUNTING THE **DAY OF PETER'S CONFESSION EARLIER AND THE DAY OF CHRIST'S TRANSFIGURATION** SEPARATELY AT THE START AND END OF THIS TIME, ADDING TWO DAYS.

*** ABOUT 8 DAYS, WHEREAS MATTHEW AND MARK PROBABLY USED THE EXCLUSIVE METHOD OF TIME COMPUTATION, REFERRING ONLY TO THE 6 INTERVENING DAYS. THERE IS NO CONTRADICTION HERE, LUKE IS NOT BEING EXACT, HE SAYS ABOUT 8 DAYS AFTER.

**** **LUKE'S WAS A MORE GENERAL RECKONING** MEASURING PARTIAL DAYS AS WHOLE DAYS. LUKE DOES NOT INTEND TO BE PRECISE FOR HE **AGAIN SAYS "ABOUT" 8 DAYS.**

***** SO ABOUT 8 DAYS AFTER THE SAYINGS OF LUKE 9:22-27, JESUS TAKES PETER, JAMES AND JOHN, THE BROTHER OF JAMES, UP TO A HIGH MOUNTAIN BY THEMSELVES TO PRAY, AND LUKE IS THE GOSPEL WRITER THAT LOVES TO TALK ABOUT JESUS PRAYING, AS HE DOES HERE AGAIN.

2. NOW PETER, JAMES AND JOHN WERE THE CLOSEST TO CHRIST OF THE 12, AND THIS WOULD BE A SPECIAL TRAINING MISSION FOR THEM.

* NOW WHAT MOUNTAIN THIS WAS IS NOT GIVEN. PETER CALLS IT THE HOLY MOUNTAIN IN MAKING REFERENCE BACK TO THIS EVENT IN II PETER 1:18.

** BUT SOME HAVE SPECULATED THAT IT IS MOUNT HERMON BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO CAESAREA PHILIPPI.

*** AND OTHERS SUGGEST MOUNT TABOR, WHILE EVEN OTHERS SUGGEST MOUNT MIRON. **BUT IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER, ALL WE NEED TO KNOW IS THAT IT WAS A HIGH MOUNTAIN.**

**** AND ONE MORE THING BEFORE WE MOVE ON TO V. 29. NO DOUBT THIS EVENT IMPACTED THESE MEN IN A GREAT WAY, FOR TWO OF THEM WRITE ABOUT IT LATER.

3. **AS WE'VE ALREADY LOOKED AT WHAT PETER SAYS IN II PETER 1:16-18, AS PETER LOOKS BACK TO THIS EVENT AND IS INSPIRED TO WRITE ABOUT IT.**

* AND THEN JOHN APPEARS TO LOOK BACK AT IT IN JOHN 1:14, QUOTE IT AND COMMENT.

*** **SO THE EVENT WE'RE STUDYING TODAY IS RECALLED IN OTHER SCRIPTURES AND NO DOUBT HAD A PROFOUND EFFECT ON THESE MEN.**

**** AND WITH THAT IN MIND, LOOK AT V. 29
PLEASE **WHERE WE'LL START TO LOOK AT OUR
3'D** POINT TODAY, THE TRANSFIGURATION.

III. THE TRANSFIGURATION, (READ V. 29)

A. NOW ON THIS MOUNTAIN TOP, THE LORD
PRAYED AND WHILE HE IS PRAYING, THE
APPEARANCE OF HIS FACE BECAME DIFFERENT
AND HIS CLOTHING BECAME WHITE AND
GLEAMING.

* AND MATTHEW RECORDS HERE IN MATTHEW
17:2 THAT JESUS WAS TRANSFIGURED BEFORE
THEM.

** NOW THE WORD TRANSFIGURED IN THE
GREEK IN MATTHEW 17:2 AND MARK 9:2 IS THE
WORD FROM WHICH WE GET OUR ENGLISH
WORD METAMORPHOSIS.

*** AND WHEN WE THINK OF THIS WORD IN ENGLISH WE THINK OF THE CHANGE IN FORM OR STRUCTURE AS A BUTTERFLY FROM A CATERPILLAR OR A FROG FROM A TADPOLE. A DRAMATIC CHANGE.

**** **WELL THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE HAVE IN** THE TRANSFIGURATION, ONLY MORE GLORIOUS. FOR THE GREEK WORD TRANSLATED TRANSFIGURED LIT. MEANS CHANGING INTO ANOTHER FORM, TO TRANSFORM.

1. AND IN THIS CONTEXT, A DRAMATIC, **SUPERNATURAL CHANGE IN THE LORD'S** APPEARANCE.

* AND MATTHEW, MARK AND LUKE SPECIFICALLY RECORD THE TRANSFORMATION, MATTHEW RECORDS HERE IN MATTHEW 17:2 THAT HIS FACE SHONE LIKE THE SUN AND ALSO THAT HIS GARMENTS BECAME WHITE AS LIGHT.

** MARK ADDS IN MARK 9:3 THAT THE WHITENESS WAS BEYOND WHAT HUMAN LAUNDERING COULD ACCOMPLISH, WHITER THAN ANYONE IN THE WORLD COULD BLEACH THEM.

*** AND THEN LUKE IN LUKE 9:29 RECORDS THAT HIS CLOTHING HAD THE APPEARANCE OF LIGHTNING FLASHING IN LUKE 9:29. (SOUNDS LIKE REVELATION **1 DOESN'T IT?**)

**** AND LUKE RECORDS IN LUKE 9:29 THAT THE APPEARANCE OF HIS FACE BECAME DIFFERENT AND HIS CLOTHING BECAME WHITE AND GLEAMING. AND THE GREEK WORD **TRANSLATED GLEAMING MEANS "EMITTING LIGHT" AND DESCRIBES A BRILLIANT FLASHING LIGHT LIKE LIGHTENING.**

***** **AND BELOVED, CHRIST'S GLORY WAS** BURNING THROUGH THE VERY FABRIC OF HIS MANHOOD BODY AND THROUGH HIS CLOTHES, JESUS PULLED BACK THE VEIL OF HIS FLESH.

2. THE JESUS WHO HAD BEEN LIVING FOR OVER 30 YEARS IN ORDINARY HUMAN FORM WAS NOW SEEN IN HIS GLORIFIED FORM AS GOD, AS HE RADIATED THE GLORY OF DEITY, THE SHEKINAH GLORY OF GOD.

* I MEAN AS THE DIVINE GLORY RADIATED FROM HIS FACE, IT ILLUMINED EVEN HIS GARMENTS WHICH BECAME WHITE AS LIGHT, IN SUPERNATURAL TESTIMONY TO HIS SPIRITUAL SPLENDOR AS GOD.

** AND AS WITH THE SHEKINAH MANIFESTATIONS OF THE O.T., GOD HERE PORTRAYED HIMSELF TO HUMAN EYES IN A FORM OF LIGHT SO DAZZLING AND SO OVERWHELMING THAT IT COULD BARELY BE WITHSTOOD.

*** THE VEIL OF **CHRIST'S** HUMANITY WAS PULLED FOR A TIME AND PETER, JAMES AND JOHN SAW A POWERFUL PREVIEW OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST IN HIS COMING AND IN HIS FUTURE REIGN, QUOTE MATTHEW 16:27.

**** AND WHAT AN EVIDENCE OF HIS DEITY AS JESUS WAS TRANSFIGURED RIGHT BEFORE THE EYES OF PETER, JAMES AND JOHN AS JESUS WAS PRAYING, HIS GLORY WAS MADE MANIFEST.

- NOW TIME WISE, I HAVE TO MOVE ON AND GET ROLLING. LOOK AT V. 30 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 30. NOW AS PETER, JAMES AND JOHN WATCH ALL OF THIS IN AMAZEMENT, MOSES AND ELIJAH APPEAR TO THEM AND THEY ARE TALKING WITH JESUS.

* AND OF COURSE MOSES WAS THE LAWGIVER AND ELIJAH WAS A SPECIAL PROPHET. AND PROBABLY AS NO OTHERS, MOSES AND ELIJAH REPRESENTED THE OLD TESTAMENT, THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS WHICH JESUS CAME TO FULFILL MATT. 5:17. AND SOME CONSIDER THEM THE TWO GREATEST PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

** AND A PART OF THEIR CONVERSATION IS REVEALED TO US IN V. 31. LOOK AT V. 31 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 31. NOW WE LEARN THAT THESE TWO GREAT SAINTS WERE TALKING WITH JESUS **"OF HIS DEPARTURE WHICH HE WAS ABOUT TO ACCOMPLISH AT JERUSALEM."**

* AND THE WORD DEPARTURE IN THE NAS, ESV AND NIV AND DECEASE IN THE KJV AND NKJV IS FROM THE GREEK TERM FROM WHICH WE GET THE WORD EXODUS, AND SPECIFICALLY IN **JESUS' CASE HIS DEPARTURE FROM LIFE, THE TIME OF HIS DECEASE WHICH WOULD LEAD TO HIS VICTORIOUS RESURRECTION.**

****** AND ISN'T IT INTERESTING THAT JUST AS THE EXODUS OUT OF EGYPT UNDER MOSES LED GOD'S PEOPLE OUT OF THE BONDAGE OF SLAVERY, THE "EXODUS" OF JESUS OUT OF THE GRAVE WOULD LEAD HIS PEOPLE, HIS ELECT, BELIEVERS, OUT OF THE BONDAGE OF SIN!**

1. SO THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MOSES, ELIJAH AND JESUS WOULD BE ABOUT HIS DEATH AND WHAT IT WOULD ACCOMPLISH, EVEN FOR THEM, MOSES AND ELIJAH, SALVATION.

* AND MOSES AND ELIJAH WERE ALSO APPEARING IN GLORY WHICH MEANS THEY WERE IN THE SPLENDOR OF THEIR GLORIFIED BODIES, A PREVIEW FOR US, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO BELIEVERS AT THE COMING OF JESUS IN THE AIR, PHILIPPIANS 3:20&21.

** NOW WITH THAT TRUTH BEFORE US, LOOK AT V. 32 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 32. NOW IT APPEARS THAT PETER, JAMES AND JOHN HAD BEEN SLEEPING AS JESUS INITIALLY TRANSFORMED HIMSELF AND MOSES AND ELIJAH APPEARED, BUT THEY WOKE UP, AND WHAT THEY WOKE UP TO WAS MAGNIFICENT AND STUNNING. SO PETER IS OVERWHELMED AND SPEAKS BEFORE HE THINKS. LOOK AT V. 33 PLEASE, WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 4TH POINT TODAY, THE TABERNACLES.

IV. THE TABERNACLES, (READ V. 33)

A. NOW MOSES AND ELIJAH WERE PARTING FROM JESUS, PETER PIPES UP ABOUT HOW GOOD IT IS FOR THE INNER CIRCLE TO BE THERE AND HE IS WILLING TO BUILD 3 TABERNACLES ON THE MOUNT, ONE FOR JESUS, ONE FOR MOSES AND ONE FOR ELIJAH.

* NOW WHY 3 TABERNACLES, LIT. TENTS, TEMPORARY SHELTERS? WELL, SOME NEW TESTAMENT CHRONOLOGISTS SUGGEST THAT AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME THAT THE TRANSFIGURATION TOOK PLACE WAS THE TIME OF THE YEAR AT JERUSALEM THAT THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES OR BOOTHS WAS CELEBRATED.

** AND DURING THAT FEAST, FOR 7 DAYS THE PEOPLE LIVED IN SMALL SHELTERS, BOOTHS OR TABERNACLES, SYMBOLIZING THE TEMPORARY DWELLING OF THEIR JEWISH FOREFATHERS IN THE WILDERNESS.

***** IT WAS A MEMORIAL TO GOD'S PRESERVING** HIS CHOSEN AND REDEEMED PEOPLE AND BRINGING THEM OUT OF THE BONDAGE OF EGYPT, THE DETAILS OF THIS FEAST GIVEN IN LEVITICUS 23:33-44.

1. NOW THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES BEING CLOSE AT HAND OR BEING CELEBRATED AT THAT VERY TIME IN JERUSALEM, MAY HAVE CAUSED PETER TO SUGGEST BUILDING THE 3 TABERNACLES ON THE MOUNTAIN.

* AND THAT POSSIBILITY HAS SOME WEIGHT TO IT WITH THE FACT THAT THIS FESTIVAL COMMEMORATED THE EXODUS FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT AND THE WILDERNESS WANDERINGS OF ISRAEL UNDER MOSES.

** BUT REGARDLESS OF WHY PETER CAME UP WITH THIS IDEA, SOMETHING FOLLOWS, AND OUR LORD DOES NOT EVEN RESPOND TO **PETER'S REQUEST**, FOR PETER DID NOT REALIZE WHAT HE WAS SAYING. BUT WHAT FOLLOWS PROBABLY REVEALS WHY THERE IS NO FURTHER RECORDED DISCUSSION. LOOK AT V. 34 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 34. NOW WHILE PETER WAS SPEAKING ABOUT HIS IDEA, A BRIGHT CLOUD FULL OF LIGHT OVERSHADOWED THEM ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 17:5, LIT. ENVELOPED THEM, SURROUNDING THEM, THEM MEANING PETER, JAMES AND JOHN.

* AND THEY WERE AFRAID AS THEY, PETER, JAMES AND JOHN ENTERED THE CLOUD, AND MATTHEW 17:6 SAYS, "THEY WERE TERRIFIED. AND IT SHOULD HAVE, FOR IT WAS NOTHING LESS THAN THE GLORY OF GOD, THE SHEKINAH GLORY, A VISIBLE MANIFESTATION OF HIS INVISIBLE MAJESTY. THEY WERE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD ALMIGHTY AND GOD WILL SPEAK OUT OF THE CLOUD OF HIS GLORY, MUCH LIKE GOD DID WITH MOSES. AND THIS LEADS US TO OUR LAST POINT TODAY, THE TEACHING FROM GOD HERE. LOOK AT V. 35 PLEASE.

V. THE TEACHING, READ V. 35

A. NOW GOD THE FATHER SPEAKS OUT OF THIS CLOUD AND THE VOICE OF GOD OUT OF THE **CLOUD SAYS: "THIS IS MY SON, MY CHOSEN ONE. LISTEN TO HIM."**

* NOW THE BRIGHT CLOUD IS REMINISCENT OF THE SHEKINAH GLORY OF GOD IN THE BOOK OF **EXODUS, WHICH INDICATED GOD'S PRESENCE.**

** AND THE WORDS ARE SIMILAR TO WHAT GOD **THE FATHER SAID AT JESUS' BAPTISM IN** MATTHEW 3:16&17, BUT THESE WORDS APPEAR TO BE A REBUKE TO PETER, JAMES AND JOHN AS PETER WAS PROBABLY SPEAKING FOR THE GROUP.

*** FOR YOU SEE, THEY SEEMED TO HAVE **MISSED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS' SHINING** DEITY AND HIS MISSION THAT WAS TALKED ABOUT WITH MOSES AND ELIJAH, HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION.

1. FOR YOU SEE, PETER 8 DAYS BEFORE THIS ACCORDING TO MATTHEW'S PARALLEL ACCOUNT IN MATTHEW 16:22, REBUKED JESUS FOR SAYING HE WAS GOING TO DIE AND RISE AGAIN.

*** AND AGAIN, JESUS' DEITY AND MISSION ARE** COMMUNICATED. AND THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON JESUS, NOT ON ELIJAH AND MOSES, JESUS WOULD FULFIL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS WHICH THEY REPRESENTED.

** AND TO PUT MOSES AND ELIJAH ON THE LEVEL OF JESUS BY BUILDING 3 TABERNACLES, EVEN IF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES WAS IN MIND, WAS WRONG, FOR A MOSES AND ELIJAH WERE NOT ON EQUAL GROUND WITH JESUS.

*** SO **THE FATHER SAYS: "THIS IS MY SON,"** NOT JUST ANOTHER PROPHET LIKE MOSES AND ELIJAH.

****** D.A. CARSON SAYS: "THE REBUKE IS ADMINISTERED SOLELY BECAUSE WHAT PETER BLURTED OUT COMPROMISED JESUS' UNIQUENESS."**

2. SO PETER AND THE OTHER 2 WERE TO FOCUS ON JESUS AND HIS MISSION AND LISTEN TO **HIM, EVEN THOUGH PETER DIDN'T LIKE WHAT** JESUS HAD TO SAY ABOUT HIS MISSION.

* BUT THE TEACHING IS, LISTEN TO HIM, THE MESSAGE IS, LISTEN TO MY SON, HE HAS TO DIE TO REDEEM YOU. AND BELOVED, THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, "LISTEN TO JESUS! OBEY HIM. WHAT HE WANTS IS ALWAYS BEST FOR US, LISTEN TO HIM, FOR HE KNOWS BEST! DON'T FIGHT AGAINST HIS WILL!

** AND THEN LOOK AT V. 36 PLEASE, OUR FINAL VERSE FOR TODAY.

B. READ V. 36. NOW AFTER GOD SPEAKS OUT OF THE CLOUD, AND GOD GIVES HIS TESTIMONY ABOUT HIS SON AND THE ADMONITION TO LISTEN TO HIM, THE CLOUD OF GOD'S PRESENCE DISAPPEARS FOR JESUS WAS FOUND ALONE.

* SO AS THE CLOUD DISAPPEARS, SO DOES MOSES AND ELIJAH. AND JESUS IS LEFT, NO DOUBT IN HIS HUMAN INCARNATE STATE, NOT IN HIS GLORIFIED STATE.

** AND ACCORDING TO THE COMPANION TEXT IN MATTHEW 17:7&8 IT SAYS:

V. 7 - AND JESUS CAME TO THEM AND TOUCHED THEM AND SAID, **"GET UP, AND DO NOT BE AFRAID."**

V. 8 - AND LIFTING UP THEIR EYES, THEY SAW NO ONE EXCEPT JESUS HIMSELF ALONE.

*** SO MATTHEW ADDS JESUS HELPED THE APOSTLES, HE TOUCHES THEM, A COMFORTING TOUCH, A LOVING TOUCH, LIKE WHEN WE PUT OUR HANDS ON SOMEONE'S SHOULDER OR EVEN HUG THEM TO COMFORT THEM, AND THEY GET UP, AND JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT BE AFRAID."

**** JESUS CALMS THEIR FEARS, GUYS, IT'S OK. I'M HERE, FEAR NOT, A REPETITIOUS STATEMENT IN SCRIPTURE; IN FACT, THE PHRASE "DO NOT BE AFRAID" IS USED 47 TIMES IN MY BIBLE.

1. SO WHAT IS THE MESSAGE FROM THE COMPASSIONATE JESUS IN TOUCHING THEM WITH COMPASSION? DO NOT BE AFRAID! AND HOW IMPORTANT IS THAT STATEMENT IN OUR LIVES TO CONQUER EVERYDAY FEARS THAT WE HAVE.

* AND THEN THE END OF V. 36 RECORDS THE 3 KEPT SILENT ABOUT THIS AND TOLD NO ONE WHAT THEY HAD SEEN.

** AND MATTHEW 17:9 GIVES US THE REASON FOR THAT FOR JESUS TOLD THEM NOT TO TELL ANYONE UNTIL AFTER HIS RESURRECTION ABOUT WHAT THEY SAW.

*** AND OF MANY POSSIBLE REASONS, PETER, JAMES AND JOHN COULD NOT PREACH A GLORIFIED CHRIST WITHOUT THE FACT, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE CHANGING REALITY OF HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION.

*** AND ONLY AFTER THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST FROM THE DEAD WOULD PETER AND JOHN TESTIFY TO THE POWERFUL PREVIEW OF CHRIST'S GLORY THEY HAD SEEN, IN IT'S PROPER AND APPROPRIATE RELATION TO THE CROSS AND EMPTY GRAVE.

(1) I WANT TO MAKE 3 QUICK APPLICATIONS OF OUR TEXT TODAY.

*** NO. 1, LISTEN TO JESUS. DON'T LISTEN TO THE WORLD, DON'T LISTEN TO THE ADVERSARY, DON'T LISTEN TO THE FLESH, LISTEN TO JESUS.**

** LISTEN TO HIS WORD AND OBEY IT. LISTEN TO THE PROMPTINGS OF THE SPIRIT WHO INDWELLS YOU IF YOU ARE A TRUE CHRISTIAN. BUT LISTEN, AND LISTEN UP AND OBEY.

*** NO. 2 HAVE A HEALTHY FEAR AND REVERENCE OF GOD, OF JESUS, WHOSE DEITY IS COMMUNICATED TODAY.

**** HAVE A HEALTHY REVERENTIAL RESPECT FOR HIM IN HIS PERSON AND PRESENCE NOT A CASUAL BUDDY BUDDY, MAN UPSTAIRS APPROACH. AND YES JESUS IS OUR FRIEND, IF WE LISTEN TO HIM, DO WHAT HE COMMANDS OF US, JOHN 14:14.

(2) BUT FEAR GOD AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, QUOTE ECCLESIASTES 12:13&14, PSALM 33:8&9, PROVERBS 1:7 AND PROVERBS 9:10.

* SO DEVELOP A HEALTHY HIGH VIEW OF GOD THROUGH THE WORD AND SOUND DOCTRINE.

** THEN NO. 3, PETER, A MAIN CHARACTER OF OUR STUDY TODAY, WHO HAD THIS GLORIOUS POWERFUL PREVIEW OF THE GLORIFIED CHRIST, WAS GREATLY INFLUENCED TO WRITE ABOUT IT IN II PETER 1:16-18, BUT IT ALSO LED TO A THEME OF HIS TWO EPISTLES, I AND II PETER.

*** FOR THE **EXPERIENCE OF SEEING CHRIST'S** GLORY MUST HAVE BEEN A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST IN GLORY, BECOMING A DOMINANT **THEME OF PETER'S PREACHING AND WRITING** THE MESSAGE OF HIS TWO EPISTLES.

**** FOR ONE THING THAT COMES THROUGH IN I AND II PETER IS THIS: FELLOW BELIEVERS, **DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR PAIN, YOUR HARDSHIP, YOUR TESTING, YOUR PERSECUTION, YOUR SACRIFICE, WHY?**

(3) JESUS IS COMING! **AND THAT'S ALL THAT REALLY MATTERS.** AND BELOVED WHAT WAS GIVEN AS A PREVIEW IN LUKE 9:27-36, WILL ONE DAY BE A REALITY FOR US TO SEE.

* AND MATTHEW 16:27 SAYS: (QUOTE IT).

** BELOVED: REWARD IS COMING, GLORY IS COMING, OUR HOPE IS SURE, OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT, BUT REMEMBER, NOW IS THE TIME OF THE CROSS. THE CROWN IS COMING SO LABOR ON. (QUOTE I CORINTHIANS 15:58 AND PRAY).