



BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW

“And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.”

Matthew 17:1

“to pray. And as he was praying,”

Luke 9:28-29

“And he was transfigured before them,”

Matthew 17:2a

“the appearance of his face was altered,”

Luke 9:29

“and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.”

Matthew 17:2b

“radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them.”

Mark 9:3

“And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.”

Matthew 17:3

“and [they] spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.”

Luke 9:31-32

“And Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.’”

Matthew 17:4

“not knowing what he said.”

Luke 9:33c

“For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified.”

Mark 9:6

“He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my beloved Son,’”

Matthew 17:5

“My Chosen One”

Luke 9:35

“‘with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.’
When the disciples heard this, they fell on
their faces and were terrified.

“But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and have no fear.’ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

“And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, ‘Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.’”

Matthew 17:5b-9

“So they kept the matter to themselves,
questioning what this rising from the dead
might mean.”

Mark 9:10

“And the disciples asked him, ‘Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?’ He answered, ‘Elijah does come, and he will restore all things.’

Matthew 17:10-11

“And how is it written of the Son of Man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt?”

Mark 9:12

“But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands.’

“Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.”

Matthew 17:12-13

Who is doing what?

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1. The details lead to celebration.

Jesus takes three friends on a **prayer retreat**.

God transfigures **Jesus**.

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- The miracle of the Transfiguration happens to Jesus; it is **not performed by Jesus**.

God transfigures **Jesus**.

- The Transfiguration is the intersection between **past and future images of deity**.

“As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow.”

Daniel 7:9a

“Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment.”

Psalm 104:1-2

“and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

“The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire . . . and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.”

Revelation 1:13-16

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”

Philippians 2:5-7

God sends Old Testament friends to talk to Jesus.

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- Moses and Elijah talk with Jesus about his **departure**.

Why are Moses and Elijah there?

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- Reminder of **eternal life**.

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- Reminder of eternal life.
- Moses experienced an **exodus**.

“Our fathers, when they were in Egypt,
did not consider your wondrous works;
they did not remember the abundance of
your steadfast love, but rebelled by the sea,
at the Red Sea.

“Yet he saved them for his name’s sake,
that he might make known his mighty power.
He rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry,
and he led them through the deep as
through a desert.

“So he saved them from the hand of the foe
and redeemed them from the power of the
enemy.”

Psalms 106:7-10

Why are Moses and Elijah there?

- Reminder of eternal life.
- Moses experienced an exodus.
- Elijah experienced resurrection and ascension.

“After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.

“And she said to Elijah, ‘What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!’

“And he said to her, ‘Give me your son.’ And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed.

“And he cried to the LORD, ‘O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?’

“Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, ‘O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.’

“And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah.
And the life of the child came into him again,
and he revived.

“And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, ‘See, your son lives.’

“And the woman said to Elijah, ‘Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.’”

1 Kings 17:17-24

“And as they [Elijah and his protege Elisha] still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them.

“And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, ‘My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ And he saw him no more.”

2 Kings 2:11-12a

Jesus's friends wake up **terrified**; Peter fear blurts.

God sends a **bright cloud**.

“Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days.

“And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

“Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.”

Exodus 24:15-18

God lovingly speaks about **his Son**.

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“This is my beloved Son, my Chosen One with whom my soul takes pleasure; listen to him.”

- Jesus is God's Son, **divine**.

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- God **loves** Jesus.

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- God loves Jesus.
- God highlights the **authority** of Jesus.

Disciples return to terror and **collapse**.

Jesus moves near and **comforts**.

Jesus declares his **destiny** and communication timeline.

Disciples **miss the point** . . . twice.

“And the disciples asked him, ‘Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?’”
(10)

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet
before the great and awesome day of the
LORD comes.”

Malachi 4:5

Jesus **clarifies prophecy** and restates his destiny.

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“He answered, ‘Elijah does come, and he will restore all things.’

“But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands.”
(11-12)

Disciples **understand prophecy.**

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“Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.” (13)

2. What makes the Transfiguration worth celebrating?

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- We watch the **Father** love the **Son**.

- We watch the Father love the Son.
- We watch how **the Father will love us.**

- We watch the Father love the Son.
- We watch how the Father will love us.
- We see Jesus is **truly divine**.

“For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

“For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,’

“we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.”

2 Peter 1:16-18