

Calvary Bible College

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Mark: The Servant Gospel, NT352

Part II *cont.* The Servant's Work: Not to be Ministered to, But to Do Ministry. Chapters 1:14–10:52

Class 7

Chapter 8:22 thru Chapter 9:32

John: The Servant Often Heals Progressively to Get Us to Look Up

8:22 Then He came to Bethsaida (*this is where they were going in 6:45, but ended up 8 miles south. Now Jesus would accomplish what He intended then-now!*); **and they brought a blind man** (*who lived out of town, v.26*) **to Him, and begged** (*plural so 'they' begged*) **Him to touch him.**

23 So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes (*with perfect aim*) **and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.**

24 And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking

-being discourage he probably put his head down and then

25 Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up.

-This was his action of faith by obeying!

v.25 cont. ... **And he was restored and saw everyone/everything clearly.**

26 Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."

This is a model of us as unbelievers

-They, witnesses/disciples brought us to Him

-Others begging the LORD to save us, to give us sight, for we are blind to spiritual things

-He begins to take us away from the things, places, people, that would influence us (out of our town)

-He touches us, has mercy on us and begins to give us some 'in-sight' –men as trees walking.

-He uses parables, illustrations, figures of speech

-Our heads are humbly down- a good place to be for a while

-He commands us to believe by commanding us look up: Faith is obedient

-We see clearly and the first person we are to see and understand clearly is Jesus

-And we are sent to our home to be a testimony there

This is also a model of us as believers

-When we were saved we saw, but at times we saw dimly, we couldn't distinguish walking trees from walking men

-We lacked clarity in troubling situations

-We were discouraged, our heads were down

-Others came along side of us

-Kept bringing us to the Lord

-He took us out of ourselves and commanded us to do what we were not doing-Looking up

-Then He gave clear insight!

-We are then sent to our homes to be a testimony there-again!

No Matthew Account

Joey: Servants Must Decide Who The Servant Is

27 Now Jesus and His disciples went out from Bethsaida to the towns of Caesarea Philippi (North from the Sea of Galilee);

v.27 cont. and on the road up He asked His disciples, saying to them, "**Who do men say that I am?**"

28 So they answered, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, **Matt. adds Jeremiah or one of the prophets.**"

-Makes one wonder what would have happened if the 'men' had said that He is the Christ the Son of the Living God...

29 He said to them, "**But who do you say that I am?**" Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ, *Matt. adds to Peter's statement: the son of the living God.*"

16:17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock (who I am based on your confession) I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

30 Then He strictly warned them that they should tell no one about Him, *Matt. adds: that He was Jesus the Christ.*

31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man, *Matt. adds: From that time Jesus began to show (or make known) to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed (cause to be put to death, not the word for murder, phonos which is used of the 10 commandments, thou shalt not murder), and after three days rise again.*

Matthew's Account, 16:13-21

John: Servants Must Choose Between the Things of God and the Things of Men

32 He spoke this word openly to His disciples (details of His death and resurrection). And Peter took Him aside (from His path to Jerusalem) and began to rebuke Him, *Matt. adds: saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"*

33 But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "**Get behind Me, Satan! Matt. adds for you are an offense (stumbling block, in the way) to me, for you are not mindful of (do not have your mind set on) the things of God, but the things of men.**"

-The things of God are not always easy, or painless BUT after 'three days' (or an ordained amount of time) end in victory

-Ours is a supernatural life lived out on earth thru the material. Ours is not a physical life lived out by the supernatural. The supernatural will be disappointing to the natural desires.

Verses 32-33 was a family only discussion, now He calls all of the people there to gather round ...

34 When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them *all*, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross (God's will, that does not end in death but after 'three days' leads to resurrection life), and follow Me.

- 'Take up' only used in the Gospels and always in connection with 'his cross', meaning mine not Jesus'

What keeps us from being willing and picking up our cross?

35 For whoever desires to save or preserve his *psuche*, or soul **life in this body **will lose it** (*appolyme*, *destroys*, *death comes!*), **but whoever loses his *psuche*, or soul **life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.******

36 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses (*forfeits it, suffers loss*) his own soul or *psuche*?

37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his, *the soul*?

38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words

-Is this what He was happening with Peter and the Lord?

-Was Peter ashamed? What caused this shame on Peter's part at this time?

v. 38 cont. ... in this spiritually adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Matthew's Account, 16:22-26

Chapter 9

Joey: THE Servant is Superior to Moses and the Prophets

1 And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing *right here who will not taste physical death till they see* (Matt. adds: 'until they see the Son of Man coming or appearing (based on 2Pet. 1:16-18) in His'), **the kingdom of God present with or in a display of power."**

2 Now or and after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up

-What a great picture: He 'leads us up'!

on a high mountain apart by themselves (*Luke in the future adds 'to pray'*); and (*Luke will add: as He prayed*), He was transfigured (*the insides shone on the outside*) before them.

What did this transfiguration look like?

3 His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

4 And Elijah appeared and became visible to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

-**Luke 9:29-33** in the future will also add:

29 and as He prayed the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

30 And behold, two men (*not angels*) talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,

31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease (*exodus!*) which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

-The disciples focused on His death, these two on His exodus out of death!

32 But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him.

33 Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus,

How did the Disciples respond to this?

5 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—

-Are these more like 'shrines' as opposed to shelters, for he did not propose any tabernacles for the disciples?

-Or is he suggesting Tabernacles because they are getting ready to depart

-Or is he suggesting tabernacles to shield them from the glory emanating from them?

-Or is he equating Jesus with them by building three like tabernacles

6 because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid.

-What they saw probably made them more afraid than who they saw?

7 And a cloud came and overshadowed them (*veiled the visible glory and drew attention to the voice*);

-Luke in the future adds here: 9:34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud.

and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. *Always Hear Him!*"

-The phrase: 'My Beloved Son' is found 8 times in the Bible all in the Gospels, except 2Pet. 1:17 where Peter quotes what he heard here in Mark 9

-As we drill deeper it is used primarily of two significant events in the life of Jesus and the proclaimer is the Father. After His baptism and after His transfiguration

-In the future Luke will use the same phrase in a parable where the Father makes the same declaration but in the context of sending His beloved son.

-So He was beloved before He was sent, He was beloved at His baptism and after His transfiguration.

-It is not what you see that is more important, for it may only lead to fear

-It is what you hear, and hear first from Jesus

-He is not saying don't listen to Moses and Elijah, but don't put them on an equal plain to Jesus, for they speak of Him

-There is a sense that we live in a cloud, we see dimly, but when the cloud is removed then face to face

-In the mean time, while in the cloud we are to Hear Him, the beloved son of the Father!

-Matthew adds here:

Matt. 17:6-7 6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.

7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid."

8 Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves.

9 Now as they came down from the mountain, He commanded them that they should tell no one the things they had seen, till the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

-They had by now had His crucifixion/resurrection told to them if

.... **10 So they kept this word to themselves, questioning what the rising from the dead meant.**

Matthew's Account, 16:28-17:9

John: Servants Understand that John the Baptist is and is not Elijah

And speaking of Elijah

11 And they (Peter, James, and John) asked Him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

-Their focus here is on the appearance of Elijah with Jesus saying in v. 1: **And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."**

-This presented a problem for them based on what the Scribes had taught about the coming of the Messiah, namely: "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

-**Malachi** says so in **4:5-6**

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet
Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
6 And he will turn
The hearts of the fathers to the children,
And the hearts of the children to their fathers,
Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.

12 Then He answered and told them, "**Indeed, Elijah is coming first and (Matt. adds: will restore) restores all things** (to a previous good or righteous state).

-We have a visual example of what 'restores' means. In the future **Luke 6:10** will say this:

And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

-So what will Elijah restore?

-In **Mal. 4:5-6** we read again

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet
Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
6 And he will turn
The hearts of the fathers to the children,
And the hearts of the children to their fathers,
Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.

-In the future do we see him doing this?

-Rev. 11:3-11

-Zech. 13:10 says that 1/3 will come thru the fire in all the land

-As a result of their testimony the Jewish people in Jerusalem/Judea will flee at the desolation of abominations, see Rev. 12:17.

And Jesus has a question for them: if in their thinking they see no need for a suffering Messiah just His appearing on earth, preceded by Elijah! then

v.12 cont. And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must suffer many things and be 'treated with contempt' (one Greek word meaning despised and therefore rejected)?

-as in **Ps. 118:22**

The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.

-**Edwards:** If the restoration of righteousness and peace for which all people long is immediate and impending, then why do the Scriptures testify that a righteous suffering figure must necessarily precede the final restoration of the Day of the Lord? ...

.... The statement that the Son of Man "must suffer much and be rejected" appears to recall the suffering Servant of the Lord of Isaiah.... It looks as though the description of v. 12 recalls the Servant of the Lord,

despised and rejected, "a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering" (Is. 53:3). If this is the case, Jesus claims the vocation of Isaiah's suffering servant as his own role as Son of Man.

-The primary passage about the suffering of the Son of Man that Jesus had in mind must have been Is. 52:13-53:12. Psalm 22 is another possibility. Significantly, Jesus shifted the emphasis. Elijah is not the central or crucial issue but the suffering of the Son of Man.

Now concerning Elijah and Jesus

13 But I say to you that Elijah has also come *before me, and they did to him (John B.) whatever they wished, as it is written of him. (in the book of Matthew!)" -Matt. adds here: 17:12 Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands."* **13 Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist.**

Matthew's Account, 17:10-13

Joey: The Servant's Cry of Faith is Often Accompanied by Unbelief

14 And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them.

15 Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him.

16 And He asked the scribes, "What are you discussing with them?"

-Based on v.17 probably their failure to cast out the demon out of the boy

17:14 And when they (Jesus and the disciples that went up on the mountain) had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,

17 Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.

15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him."

18 And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So, I spoke to Your disciples (since you were not here), that they should cast it out, but they could not."

19 He answered him and said, "O faithless (refusing to believe) Matt. Adds: and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me."

-**Edwards:** The "unbelieving generation" is ostensibly a reference to the crowd apart from the disciples, for "generation" (Gk. *genea*) occurs five times in Mark (8:12 [2x], 38; 9:19; 13:30), but never with reference to the disciples. Even though the disciples are insufficient for the task of healing the demon-possessed boy (vv. 18, 28), Jesus does not chastise them. Inability is simply a limitation, not a fault.....

-The doubts and disbelief of the crowd do not determine Jesus' willingness or ability to act, however

20 Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

21 So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.

22 And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us (our suffering & my unbelief)."

23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "**Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!**"

26 Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead (*but he sleeps*), so that many said, "He is dead."

18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ... and the child was cured from that very hour.

28 And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"

20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief;

-The only one in this narrative with any faith is the father

..... and here is what I mean by unbelief **for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed (it's not the size but the quality, the measure), you will say to this mountain (this obstacle), 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.**

29 So He said to them, "**This kind (or category of demon) can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.**"

Matthew's Account, 17:14-21

John: The Servant Understands God's Sovereign Use of Man's Freewill

30 Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee **they were staying in Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it.**

31 For He taught (*not proclaimed, for He had done that, now He is teaching them about His proclamation in 8:31*) His disciples and said to them, "**The Son of Man is currently in the process of **being betrayed into the hands of men, (Matt. Reads "The Son of Man is about to be (in the near future) betrayed into the hands of men,) and they will kill Him. And after He is killed by them, He will rise the third day. Matt. Reads and the third day He will be raised up but not by 'them'.**"**

-So who is in control, the successful betrayers and the ones who kill or the one raises Him up from that killing?

32 But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him And Matt adds: **they were exceedingly sorrowful.**

-As we shall see in the next paragraph they savor the things of men: position, greatness

-And they do so because they do not understand the stages of the Kingdom on earth, they do not understand the whole crucifixion process must come first

-And because they do not understand they become exceedingly sorrowful

-And as we shall see they do not remain sorrowful

-They block out what they don't understand and fall back on the faulty doctrine that He is going to set up His kingdom now,

-This they think they understand and they begin to discuss what their role will be in that kingdom.....

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Part II *cont.* The Servant's Work: Not to be Ministered to, But to Do Ministry.
Chapters 1:14–10:52

Class 7

Chapter 8:22 thru chapter 9

The Servant Often Heals Progressively to Get Us to Look Up – John

8:22 Then He came to Bethsaida (*this is where they were going in 6:45*); and they brought a blind man (*who lived out of town, v.26*) to Him, and begged Him to touch him.

23 So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

24 And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking

25 Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly.

26 Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."

The Servant Often Heals Progressively to Get Us to Look Up

No Matthew Account

Servants Must Decide Who The Servant Is – Joey

27 Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, "**Who do men say that I am?**"

Why do you think Jesus asked them that question?

- Do you think that Jesus is having an identity crisis?
- Is Jesus conducting a “public opinion” poll?
 - Did He ask that because he **really didn't know** what people said about Him as if He was in the dark about it?
 - He asked this question **as an introduction** to a more important follow-up question.

28 So they answered, "**John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.**" Matthew adds Jerimiah to the list

1st of their list - **John The Baptist**

- Why would they think that? John is dead at this point. Be-headed for calling Herod out on his sin. He wasn't a politically correct guy 😊
 - Herod Antipas who killed John the Baptist was really concerned when he heard about all the signs, wonders and miracles that Jesus performed and he began to believe that Jesus was John the Baptist risen from the dead coming to get him!

2nd on their list – **Elijah**

- He's also dead. He's been dead for 900 years. Why would they think Jesus was Elijah?

In the last 2 verses of Malachi (The Italian Prophet) 😊

Malachi 4:5-6 says...

Behold, I will send you (speaking of Israel) **Elijah the prophet**

Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

Jews thought that before the Messiah could come, Elijah would come 1st (before Messiah)

- That’s why **back then** and **even today**...When Jews are celebrating “The Passover” they keep a seat open and the door open just in case Elijah comes strolling in to take a seat at the Passover table.
- If he does that...then the 1st coming of the Messiah is not far away. They didn’t see and still don’t see that... the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ. They are still waiting for the 1st coming of Christ, which has already occurred.

3rd on their list – **Jeremiah**

Why him?

Jeremiah was known as the “weeping prophet”?

- How would you feel if you preached for 40 years and you didn’t see any fruit?
 - I’d cry to! And I’m not a crier ☺ Jeremiah and Jesus cried over Jerusalem
 - Why did they liken Jesus to Jerimiah?
 - There was a Jewish tradition that said Jeremiah (before he died) took the tabernacle, the Alter of Incense and The Ark of the Covenant and hid them in a cave on top of Mount Nebo.
 - Right before The Messiah came to set up his Kingdom, Jeremiah would be risen from the dead, and bring those 3 things back to the Nation of Israel.

People held Jesus in high esteem, ranking Him with the great prophets, but they lacked the perception to see Him as The Promised Messiah and the Son of the living God.

What do all those people in vs 28 have in common?

They are ALL DEAD!!

- Not Jesus! Not back then...not today! He’s Alive! Because He Lives; We live now live in Him!

Jesus asked the 1st question as a warm-up to a more important follow-up question.

- The answer to his next question is the question that determines the destiny or destination of everyone **back then** and **everyone today**
- That was a REALLY important question back then and it remains a REALLY important question today...
 - It’s a question that all of us must answer!

29 He said to them, "**But who do you say that I am?**" Peter answered and said to Him, "**You are the Christ.**"

CULTS GET THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION WRONG!!

The group’s spokesmen ☺ **answers Jesus’s most important question...in vs. 29**

SO...How did Peter come to this supernatural understanding?

Matthew's account tells us in Matthew 16:17

Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed (Oh how happy) are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

Jesus is letting Peter know, **Peter**, you didn't come up with all by yourself, you didn't just figure this out all by yourself. You had supernatural help!

You are blessed because my Father who is in heaven, chose by divine relation to reveal it to you!

Back in **Mark 8:30**

Then He (Jesus) strictly warned them that they should tell no one about Him.

31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. (they didn't hear this last part...they only heard the first part)

We would have greater hope if we listened to all that Jesus has said...not just part of what He said.

- This is not what they were expecting to hear.
 - o Now that you've settled on Who I AM...let me tell you what I've really come to do.

Servants Must Decide Who The Servant Is

Peter goes from the Penthouse to the Outhouse in the next section

Matthew's Account, 16:13-21

Servants Must Choose Between the Things of God and the Things of Men - John

32 He spoke this word openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.

33 But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

34 When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them *all*, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

This is PRESENT ACTIVE IMPERATIVE.

- Christianity is a decisive choice followed by continual discipleship

35 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

36 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Servants Must Choose Between the Things of God and the Things of Men

Mark has spent the 1st 8 chapters talking about who Jesus is...now he transitions to what He has come to do...His mission, which is setting His sights on the cross.

Chapter 9

The Servant is Superior to Moses and the Prophets- Joey

1 And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste *physical* death till they see with their own eyes the kingdom of God present with power."

Matthew 16:28 adds... **see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."**

This verse should actually be the ending of chapter 8 rather than the beginning of chapter 9 because it connects what was just said in vs. 38.

It sets up the action that follows in vs 2 – The phrase "**Assuredly, I say to you** or "**I tell you the truth**" is a strong command from Jesus to those who are listening to pay close attention.

What did Jesus refer to when he mentioned the kingdom of God **present with power**?

- Vs 2

2 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; to pray Luke tells us

- Probably Mount Hermon – they hiked over 10,000 feet wearing sandals
 - Like walking up the Manitou Incline in sandals for prayer time

and He was transfigured (*means to change form or be changed*) **before them.** How did He physically change in front of them?

- What you truly are...shining out
- From the inside out...it's the same process for us spiritually.

Get in the DeLorean and Paul would tell us that we are either being conformed or transformed...

- We are either being conformed or to be spiritually transfigured (from the inside out)

Romans 12:2 New King James Version (NKJV)

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:2 New Living Translation (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

What was the purpose of His transfiguration?

- The transfiguration was a momentary manifestation of the sovereign power of Jesus that pointed to the time when he will return in power at His 2nd coming.
 - This is a sneak preview of what's coming next, so they can hold onto it when the coming months will bring pain, suffering, separation and death.

What did Jesus' inside-out physical transformation look like? **Vs. 3**

3 His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

- Whiter than any bleach on earth could make them
 - That's what He has done for us

Isaiah 1:18 New King James Version (NKJV)

“Come now, and let us reason together,” **Says the Lord**, “Though your sins are like scarlet (speaking of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah), They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

When we get dirty how do we get clean again?

1 John 1:9 New King James Version (NKJV)

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to **cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Matthew adds in 17:2... **His face shone like the sun**

- He is allowing these 3 disciples to see His glory (His deity) revealed and seen
 - I think of the song Mercy Me sings... “I can only imagine”
 - I can only imagine what it will be like
 - When I walk, by your side
 - I can only imagine what my eyes will see
 - When you face is before me
 - I can only imagine

They wake up...

4 And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

Why Elijah and Moses?

- Elijah represents all of the prophets
 - How did he die? Caught up to be with The Lord in 2nd Kings...He did not physically die
- Moses represents the Law
 - The Law is fulfilled by who? Jesus
- They Elijah and Moses both made grand exits
 - They both understood rejection, suffering and great sacrifice
 - But Jesus made the ultimate grand exit...He dismissed His Spirit...WOW!
 - Jesus was acquainted with rejection, suffering and great sacrifice like no other

Who are Elijah and Moses talking to?

- Jesus
 - What were they talking about?

Luke 9:30-31 New King James Version (NKJV)

30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease (exodus) which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

- They were talking about the exodus that Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem on the cross
 - Leading captivity captive
 - Setting people free from the bondage of sin through his blood

Did Israel hold Elijah and Moses in high regard?

- How should they view Jesus then?
 - In higher regard, but did they understand that yet?
 - NO...One of the 3 that saw Jesus transfigured didn't get it

5 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles (tents): one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—

Did Elijah and Moses give Peter the stop talking sign ☺

"Rabbi (teacher) not Son of Man...not focusing on the Jesus deity that's been revealed it is **good** for us to be here... **good** there means goodness as it is seen from without and also has the idea of being "beautiful."

- Do you think Peter liked it up there?

make three (tents):

it is possible Peter was trying to encourage the conversation to continue indefinitely. It was the custom for the Jews to build tabernacles every year for the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles that they would hang out in for a week

What's Peter doing by saying what he just said?

- Unintentionally making Jesus equal with Elijah and Moses
 - Worthy of the same honor and worship
 - Is there something or someone that give the same honor or worship to?

- We don't worship man or our stuff...ONLY God is worthy of our worship
 - Preeminence (fancy word meaning 1st place) in our hearts
- Remember they were lite up by Jesus glory...not Elijah and Moses glory

6 because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid.

- It's still a good rule...When you don't know what to say...keep your mouth shut ☺
 - Listen instead ☺

7 And a cloud came and overshadowed them;

- The shekinah glory of God...the visible expression of His powerful presence and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My *only* beloved Son. Hear Him! Greek: Continually Be **Hearing Him!**" over the prophets and Moses
- God redirects their honor and worship
 - It's not about Elijah or Moses...it's about my Son!
 - All they did and said point to Him! *In the volume of the book it is written of me...Jesus*
 - There are times when what we honor and worship needs to be directed back to the One who truly deserves.
- Man's voice may be well intentioned, Peter was well-intentioned, but dead wrong...He didn't know what to say, so he threw something out there
 - Hear Jesus...His voice will always be right! Amen!

Matthew adds in 17:6-7...**And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. 7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid."**

8 Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves.

- They had hidden their faces while God spoke from the cloud. When they opened their eyes they found that Elijah, Moses, and the cloud were no longer there and Jesus was back in the earthly form that they knew.

9 Now as they came down from the mountain,

back to life...back to their reality that things are not going to go according to their plan.

- Jesus is not going to overthrow Rome and establish His Kingdom
- He is marching towards a cross that they don't understand

This was a mountain top vision...for their valley below”

- God will show you and you will learn things on the mountain top in order to prepare you for the valley.
 - o But our flesh likes mountaintops...not valleys
- Here’s what you and I need to keep in mind in valley times
 - o Mountain tops are not abiding places...valleys are!
 - Jesus had to come down from the mountain to the valley in order to abide in His Fathers will.

He is the God of the Mountaintop and the Valley...He is with us in both!

- He invites us to come (leads us up) to the mountaintops, but the work is in us and through us is mostly going to be done in the valleys.

He commanded them that they should tell no one the things they had seen (Matthew adds “the vision”), till the Son of Man is risen from the dead.

10 So they kept this word to themselves, questioning what the rising from the dead meant.

- It’s once again a timing thing

This is like the first time this has happened...that someone obeyed Jesus command to keep it the down low.

The Servant is Superior to Moses and the Prophets

Matthew’s Account, 16:28-17:9

Servants Understand that John the Baptist is and is not Elijah – John

11 And they asked Him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

12 Then He answered and told them, "**Indeed, Elijah is coming first and restores all things. And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must suffer many things and be treated with contempt? 13 But I say to you that Elijah has also come, and they did to him whatever they wished, as it is written of him.**"

Servants Understand that John the Baptist is and is not Elijah

Matthew's Account, 17:10-13

The Servant's Cry of Faith is Often Accompanied by Unbelief – Joey

The beginning of the valley...

- Leaving a great experience with the Lord and encountering spiritual and physical opposition

14 And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing (heated arguing) with them.

- in a marriage, we call it having a time of intense fellowship ☺)

What were they having a heated argument over?

- Probably the other 9 disciple's inability to meet the need that was presented to them in vs 18

It was dual problem:

1. they were unable to deliver a boy from demonic control
2. the scribes were arguing with them and even taunting the other 9 disciples because of their failure.
 - a. Notice in vs 16 that Jesus steps in to solve the problem.

15 Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him.

Some interpreters believe the crowds were because **greatly amazed** because Jesus' face shone as did Moses' when he descended the mountain of God.

Do you think that is true?

If this had happened, would it have contradicted Jesus' own words to keep the event secret until after his death and resurrection.

- I think it was because Jesus' appearance was sudden and unexpected.
 - Jesus doesn't show early or late...always in His perfect timing

Jesus steps in to defend his kids from the scribe bullies because He is our Good Sheppard.

16 And He asked the scribes, "**What are you discussing with them?**"

-Based on v.17 probably their failure to cast out the demon out of the boy

17 Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.

Matthew 17:14 And when they (*Jesus and the disciples that went up on the mountain*) had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,

Matthew 17:15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

Matthew 17:16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him."

- the child's condition here is described as being both demon possession and having the inability to speak. **Vs. 25** will add another condition that he has

18 And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid.

This is strait of the exorcist. This demon throws him violently to the ground. Then he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth and becomes stiff.

So, I spoke to Your disciples (*since you were not here*), that they should cast it out, but they could not."

- Disciples can be a poor substitute for the Lord...as in this case
 - o It's good to ask other Christians for help, but in some cases, like this one, we just need Our Lord to provide our help.

19 He (Jesus) answered him and said, "**O faithless** (refusing to believe) (**Matthew adds**) **and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you?**"

Bring him to Me.

"be bringing," implies that the boy was not with the father, but in safe keeping not far off.

20 Then they brought him to Him. And when he (the demon) saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

- They've heard from the Father that this is what happens, but now they are seeing it.
- The demon is responding negatively in being in the presence of Jesus

21 So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.

- Ever since he was little

22 And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

- The demons mission is clear...destroy the child
 - That is what our enemy wants to do to us...steal, kill and destroy

But if You can do anything - The noun form is dunamis which means "power" that overcomes resistance.

The father's faith may have been shaken by the failure of the disciples, and also lessened by the severity of the demon possession of his son.

The Father said **...help us...**not help Him

- It is a picture of a father's longsuffering love for his son. The father identifies himself with the misery that his son has been going through.
 - how long have they been going through this?...since he was a little boy

23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

- Jesus can, but can you? Jesus has power to meet your need, but do you have the faith in His power
 - If you can believe—all things are possible to the one who believes.
 - Faith puts no limits on the ability of God
 - But faith submits to the will of God

Name it and claim it people...believe in the ability of God, but impose their will on God

- That's not faith

Other people emphasize the will of God, but they lack the faith to believe can work in the situation...maybe he doesn't care about_____!

24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

- I love this father’s honesty
 - An honest description of both his mental and spiritual state.
 - He still had faith, but recognizes that he needed more.
 - I want you to see that you can be honest with the Lord about your struggles? Do you believe that?

help my unbelief!"

- “Be constantly helping my unbelief.”
 - Recognition that there is something lacking in his faith
 - Do I really trust that Jesus can_____ fill in the blank.

Henry Barclay Swete says: “The father instantly responds to the demand for fuller trust on his part ... He recognizes that the help he needs is in the first instance help for himself and not for his boy.... He believes, but his faith is defective, and its defect needs the Jesus assistance

- We are this father in areas of our faith
 - This is part of our valley

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together,

Nowhere else in the bible...A double compound in the Greek

- The crowd was growing so fast that everyone is running together to see the outcome of the father’s request.

He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!"

- The command was to... “Hit the Road Jack and don’t you come back no more, no more, no more, no more

26 Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him.

WUEST: The demon wreaked its revenge on its victim even in the act of quitting its hold upon him.... The convulsions were violent and prolonged, and when they ceased, the sufferer’s strength was exhausted; a collapse followed; he lay motionless and white as a corpse.” The demon was ticked because what he possessed he possessed no more

- When Jesus commands.... demons obey.

And he became as one dead (but he is just sleeping), so that many said, "He is dead."

18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; 27 But Jesus took him by the hand

- A reminder of the firm grip that The Lord has on us and the things that we ask Him to help us with us...like Jairus only little daughter

and lifted him up, and he arose. ... and the child was cured from that very hour.

28 And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"

- We did it before...why could we not do it this time?
- We can't live on our past experiences...There are new things for us to learn
 - o Faith is not $A + B = C$

20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief;

-The only one in this narrative with any faith is the father

*..... and here is what I mean by unbelief **for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed (it's not the size but the quality, the measure), you will say to this mountain (not a physical mountain, but a large obstacle), 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.***

29 So He said to them, "This kind (rank or category of demon) can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting."

- Why?

You can't command with your voice a deaf and dumb demon to hit the road jack and don't you come back no more, no more, no more, no more if the demon can't hear you.

The Servant's Cry of Faith is Often Accompanied by Unbelief

Matthew's Account, 17:14-21

The Servant Understands God's Sovereign Use of Man's Freewill - John

30 Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. 31 For He taught His disciples and said to them, "**The Son of Man is currently being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.**"

32 But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.

The Servant Understands God's Sovereign Use of Man's Freewill

Matthew's Account, 17:22-23

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Name: _____

Mark: The Servant Gospel, NT352

Homework for Class #7

List at least one personal application not mentioned in class under each of our paragraph headings.

9:1-10: THE Servant is Superior to Moses and the Prophets

9:11-13: Servants Understand that John the Baptist is and is not Elijah

9:14-29: The Servant's Cry of Faith is Often Accompanied by Unbelief

9:30-32: The Servant Understands God's Sovereign Use of Man's Freewill

9:33-37: The Great Servants Position Themselves Last and Least

9:38-50: The Humble Servant Removes the Stumble