



**The Oaks Baptist Church**

Grand Prairie, Texas

**Lesson Leaders:**

**James Haymon**  
**Jose Cisneros**

**Class Leaders:**

**Director: Ron Harris**  
**Inreach: Pat Hester**  
**Secretary: Mary Clark**  
**Deacon: C M Hester**

## Witnessed by Disciples

Matt 17:1-12

**Jesus Christ the Fulfillment**

**A Study in Matthew**

Date	Lesson	Text
12/04	Lineage of Jesus	1:1-17; Ruth 4:13-17
12/11	Emmanuel's Birth	1:18-25
12/18	Confirming His Birth	2:7-23
01/08	Special Lesson	Bro. Cisneros
01/15	Strength in Temptation	4:1-11
01/22	Acts of Healing	9:27-34; 11:2-6
01/29	Declared in Prayer Pt1	11:25-30
02/05	Declared in Prayer Pt2	11:25-30
02/12	Revealed in Rejection	13:54-58
02/19	Canaanite Woman	15:21-28
02/26	Declared by Peter	16:13-27
<b>03/04</b>	<b>Witnessed by Disciples</b>	<b>17:1-12</b>
03/11	Anointed in Bethany	26:6-13
03/18	Review and Summary	

**Food for Thought**

**Seeing God's Glory**

The glory of God In the face of His Son To us who behold Him is heaven begun. The world's greatest glory is but a spark compared to the radiance of God's glory.

*And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.* (Ezek 43:2 NJKV)

*(From "Our Daily Bread", Apr 10, 2002)*

Jesus announced that some standing with Him would not die until they saw Him coming in His kingdom (Matt. 16:28). Six days later, this prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain with Him and was transfigured before them. **His transfiguration was a preview of Him coming in His kingdom. All the components of Christ's kingdom were present on this occasion.** The glorified Christ was on earth, being served by Moses (who probably represented the law) and Elijah (who probably represented the prophets). Jesus had come to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matt. 5:17; Luke 24:27,44). Peter was greatly moved by what he saw and offered to make three shelters — one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. Peter was most likely thinking of the Feast of Tabernacles, which required the people to live in booths to remember their experience of leaving Egypt. The Prophet Zechariah foretold that the Feast of Tabernacles would be celebrated in the messianic kingdom (Zech. 14:16-19). Peter's experience on the mountain caused him to think that the messianic kingdom was about to be established. Therefore, it was appropriate to build shelters for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. His good intentions were marred by his attempt to place Jesus on the same level as Moses and Elijah. The Father quickly corrected Peter by overshadowing the disciples in a bright cloud (of. Exod. 40:34-35) and speaking to them out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." When the disciples heard the voice of God, they were terrified and fell on their faces. Jesus came to them and touched them and said, "Arise, and be not afraid" (Matt. 17:7). As the song says, "It's just like Jesus to roll the clouds away" (Worrell, "It's Just Like His Great Love"). Jesus still comes to His disciples who are facing frightening circumstances, touches them, and drives away their fears. When the Lord's disciples looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. That is what the Father wanted; He wanted their eyes completely on Jesus and their ears listening only to His voice. His word is supreme.

**Peter never forgot this cherished moment. In 2 Peter 1:16-19 he recalled the event, specifically mentioning that he had been an eyewitness of the majesty of the Lord (His glorious transfiguration) and had heard the voice of God affirming that Jesus was His beloved Son.** There was no doubt in Peter's mind that he had stood in the very presence of God, for he spoke of the "holy mount" (vs. 18). The only thing that can make a mountain holy is the presence of God (cf. Exod. 3:2-5; Isa. 27:13). The disciples had learned in a dramatic way that **Jesus was not just another great prophet. He was greater than Moses or Elijah; He was the divine Son of God,** who fully pleased the Father. They owed Him their undivided attention and complete obedience. This experience was given to Peter, James, and John, the inner core of Jesus' disciples, in order to sustain them throughout the ordeal of His crucifixion. When Jesus asked His disciples to identify Him, God directed Peter to declare Him to be "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). Jesus talked about the "keys of the kingdom" (vs. 19). We have all marveled at the metamorphosis of caterpillars into beautiful butterflies. This amazing change in nature is but a pale shadow of what happened to Jesus on the Mount of transfiguration and what will happen to Christians when they finally enter His eternal kingdom.

*(From the Bible Expositor and Illuminator)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **WITNESSED THE GLORY OF JESUS' PERSON (MATT 17:1-3)**

#### *Glory seen by the "Inner Circle" (1)*

The "inner circle" at the garden of Gethsemane (Matt 26:37)

The "inner circle" at the healing at the house of Jairus (Luke 8:51)

The "inner circle" were among the first disciples called (Matt 4:18-21)

#### *Glory of the Transfiguration of Jesus (2)*

Transfiguration of the glory that Jesus had before the world began (John 17:5)

Transfiguration of Jesus' glory that He received again after death (1 Peter 1:21)

Transfiguration of Jesus' glory as the One and Only Son of God (John 1:14)

Transfiguration of Jesus' glory that one day will be in His people (2 Thess 1:10)

#### *Glory of the appearance of Moses and Elijah with Jesus (3)*

Moses brought the law (John 1:17)

Moses had a temporary glory, while Jesus has an eternal glory (2 Cor 3:7-8)

Elijah never saw death (2 Kings 2:11)

Elijah was prophesied to return before Jesus came (Mal 4:5)

### **WITNESSED THE GLORY OF JESUS' KINGDOM (MATT 17:4-8)**

#### *Affirmation from God of the kingdom (4-5)*

Affirmation relating back to the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:34-37, 42-43)

Affirmation from God that Jesus is His Son (John 8:18)

Affirmation from God about the glory of Jesus (John 8:54)

Affirmation from God about all things concerning Jesus (John 5:37)

Affirmation from God at Jesus' baptism (Matt 3:16-17)

#### *Awe and fear about the glorious kingdom (6-8)*

Awe about God's kingdom because we are unclean before a holy God (Isa 6:1-7)

A glorious kingdom that can never be destroyed (Dan 2:44)

A kingdom that will be cleansed by God only (Matt 13:24-30)

A kingdom that is an inheritance (Col 1:11-14)

Awe about God's kingdom because it is greater than all nations (Mal 1:11)

### **WITNESSED THE GLORY OF JESUS' SUFFERING (MATT 17:9-12)**

#### *Secrecy until after the suffering and resurrection (9)*

Secret because the time had not come yet for it to be revealed (John 2:4)

Secret so that God's redemptive purposes could be accomplished (Mark 4:11-12)

Secret about God's wisdom that is destined for our glory (1 Cor 2:7)

Secret because it was prophesied (Matt 13:34-35)

#### *Coming of Elijah before the suffering (10-11)*

The coming of Elijah that was fulfilled through John the Baptist (Matt 11:12-14)

The coming of Elijah that was prophesied in Malachi (Mal 4:5)

The coming of Elijah that was used as a scoffing of Jesus on the cross (Matt 27:47-49)

The coming of Elijah that precedes a restoration (Acts 3:19-21)

#### *Forewarning of the suffering of Jesus (12)*

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus because it was written in Scriptures (Mark 9:12)

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus for everyone (Heb 2:9)

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus that allows Him to be sympathetic toward us (Heb 2:18)

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus that teaches us obedience (Heb 5:8)

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus that provides us an example (1 Peter 2:21)

Forewarned of the suffering of Jesus that provides us joy when Jesus' glory is revealed (1 Peter 4:12-14)