

The transfiguration, all the Old Testament comes together there and it matters for you to see what's going on there, for what happens in your days. God shining forth on a mountain, reminisce of Mt. Sinai. That Moses when He came down from the mountain had to veil his face from the people for days because of the radiance from in the veiled presence of God. Now Jesus who is shining as the sun. Moses, there inspired to write the Torah, first 5 books of Scripture, all of the Exodus, wilderness, Passover, Sacrifices, the priesthood, the Temple, the tabernacle, God veiled in pillar of cloud guiding them, resting in the Tabernacle. Peter even wants to hold a Feast of Tabernacles there.

And Elijah. What all the prophets point to is there. As Elijah was carried into heaven, his return is known to usher in the Christ, as Jesus declares John the Baptist, the Elijah-type to come. All the Scriptures, prophets on that mount, all the history of God's people there.

We hear the voice of God the Father only 3 times in the gospels, He preaches almost the same sermon every time. It's here and at the baptism of Jesus, then Holy Week when Jesus is praying **Father glorify your name** and God responds **I have glorified it and I will glorify it again**. Glory of the passion and cross.

If the Father speaks, take note. All of the Old Testament, the voices of patriarchs and prophets, summed up in the simple sermon, **This is my son, listen to Him**. Even God word to Moses, Dt. 18, **I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers and I will put my words in his mouth and he shall speak to them all that I command him. This is my beloved Son listen to him**.

If we are honest, we really don't always want to listen to Him, listen to His word, His preaching. We would rather listen to us, listen to the world, foremost listen to the voice in our head and trust and rationalize all that it says. "Since I know what's best for me, why doesn't God seem to agree to give me what I think I need?" You don't say it outloud but think it, but how often you think you know better than God. Even more, you think if something is going to happen it is all up to you to work it, rather than do your duty, vocation and trust fully on God to work things out.

And visible glory, what excites Peter and the disciples, that which is seen, which we long for, is what we want now, in ways we can see, to have success, glory in our churches, in our homes, in our work, no hurt or sufferings, but successes, glory is what we think we need most – even more important than the Word St. Peter points us to as greater.

Remember all this is framed, with **six days earlier**. Jesus spoke of His passion, and who do you confess me to be for you. That there are dark days

ahead. That we are given a glimpse of His glory, unveiled, from that mount. To prepare us too for the passion, prepare us for what we endure every day.

In all the Gospels, from the Transfiguration, this point forward, Jesus turns His face, is headed directly to Jerusalem know what He must do for Moses, Elijah, the disciples, what He must do for you. So you get a glimpse of His glory, told to not fear, see how all things come together in Him. **Listen to Him.**

Note this take place Jesus reveals his glory in the flesh, in the farthest location he ever traveled from Jerusalem. Away from the other disciples, away from the crowds. And He tells them to not reveal it, keep this messianic secret, because He wants them, wants you to see all things through His passion and cross.

If you want a homework assignment, go read 2nd Peter, written amid a world in chaos and great suffering among God's people; as a reflection of Peter on this event. We had a little of it in the epistle text Peters reflecting on all the things that he learned and saw on the mount of transfiguration. Peter states, but you have something far greater; **the Word, pay attention, lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns, the morning star rises in your hearts.**

What do you make of this transfiguration. St.Peter says if you want to keep this vision in front of you in your hearts and your minds it will be great because it will confirm this truth. Also in 2 Peter, **His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence by which He has granted us His precious and very great promises for all you need for life.** All that you need for godliness; all that you need to navigate these gray and latter days; all that you need to wake up in the morning and go to sleep at night; all that you need to serve your neighbor and to praise God; and to suffer well and to die; all is given to you, precious, great promises in Christ.

Whether worn down or dark days, Peter wants you to remember the transfiguration. Remember this is your God in the flesh is for you, with you; He strengthens you. He carries you through this life until you at last we'll see Him in full glory of the transfiguration and your own transfiguration like Moses and Elijah.

Until then, Peter writes, you have something even greater you can't fathom, this Word, brings you Christ Himself, veiled glory, His precious, great promises to you in the Sacraments to sustain you. Transfiguration, not for Jesus, it's not just for Peter James and John ,it's also for you and for me so may this vision sustain us through the darkness of this life into the light of the world to come. **Listen to Him. Rise and have no fear and see only Jesus.**