

James and John – “sons of thunder” for their boldness.

James – leader in the great church in Jerusalem (Acts 15:13)

John – would write the last book of the Bible – Revelation.

John 1:14

14 . . . and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

“**went up on the mountain to pray**” – nothing unusual so far.

- It may be that His Transfiguration is the Father's answer to His prayer.

29 And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.

“different” – ετερος – another of a different kind.
αλλοος – another of the same kind.

Matt 17:2

2 And He was **transfigured** before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.

μεταμορφωω – metamorphosis - to go through a complete change of form. Caterpillar to a butterfly.

- Jesus totally transformed into something different. He became shining, dazzling, blazing light. Like the sun. Like lightning. It shone right through His clothes. It is not a light shining on Jesus. This is coming from within.

Rev 1:13-16

and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.

14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

- So this transfiguration is a look back at what Jesus was like before He came to earth, taking on the form of human flesh (past glory), and it is a look forward of what He will be like in the future Millennium kingdom (future glory).

Phil 3:20-21

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

21 **who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory.**

Luke 9:27-36

27 "But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

28 Some eight days after these sayings, He took along Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

29 **And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.**

30 And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were Moses and Elijah, 31 who, appearing in glory, were speaking of His departure which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 Now Peter and his companions had been overcome with sleep; but when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.

33 And as these were leaving Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah" — not realizing what he was saying.

34 While he was saying this, a cloud formed and began to overshadow them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.

35 Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"

36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.

Heb 1:1-3

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature,

Kenneth Wuest on vs. 3: “The manner of His outward expression was changed before them, that outward expression coming from and being truly representative of His inner nature.”

- The inner glory of Jesus is no longer veiled. What was inside now came outside. Jesus pulled back the veil.
- Moses saw it on Mount Sinai. Israel saw it in the cloud and the pillar.

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30 And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were Moses and Elijah,

“behold” – stop and take notice of this.

Moses and Elijah – represent the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah), those who uphold the Law. Perhaps the greatest men in the O.T.

Matt 5:17

17 “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

- They are in their glorious state.
- They entered heaven in 2 different ways – death and rapture.

1 Thess 4:16-17

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the **dead** in Christ will rise first.

17 Then **we who are alive** and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

- **Why are they there?** Because everything in the O.T. pointed to Christ. Christ was the fulfillment of all that they taught. They were the sum of all of the O.T.
- They have known Christ since they reached heaven.
- **Note:** They are still Moses and Elijah.

31 who, appearing in glory, were speaking of His departure which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

- Note: They are appearing with Christ in their glorified bodies.
- What a conversation they must have been having!

“**departure**” – His exodus. Leaving this world. This was His death, His resurrection and His ascension from Jerusalem into heaven. We often say when someone has dies, “they departed.”

“**accomplish**” – He accomplished something in His death. We do not often speak this about someone who has died or departed. Jesus accomplished salvation for all.

- **Think about it:** Moses led Israel in the exodus out of Egypt and bondage. Jesus, through His death, is going to lead mankind out of the slavery to sin. Elijah and all of the prophets proclaimed the coming Messiah and what He would accomplish in His death. Jesus is the one who, through His death, will bring salvation to a lost and fallen world.

32 Now Peter and his companions had been overcome with sleep; but when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.

“**overcome with sleep**”- βαρπεω – heavy, to weigh down. Perfect Passive Participle – the subject is being acted upon. They are not choosing to sleep. They just couldn’t help but sleep, no other choice.

- They were dead tired. Exhausted to the point of total surrender to sleep. They are not being disrespectful, or not showing interest, or saying they couldn’t care less about what was happening. They were overcome.
- When they woke up – Wow, what is this going on?
- So here is the fulfillment of verse 27 – they are seeing a glimpse of the Kingdom of God. How? By seeing Jesus in His glorified body which He will manifest to the world at His 2nd Coming and His setting up of the physical Millennial Kingdom. They are also seeing Moses and Elijah who are in the Kingdom.

Matt 25:31

31 “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then **He will sit on His glorious throne.**

Luke 9:27-36

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- Peter is really enjoying this.

"It's good to be here." Why? Because there are a lot of things coming together for Peter. He thinks that this is the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom here on earth. The 2nd Coming will include: 1. the glorified Christ, 2. saints that are with Him, 3. He is on a mountain.

Luke 9:26

26 "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

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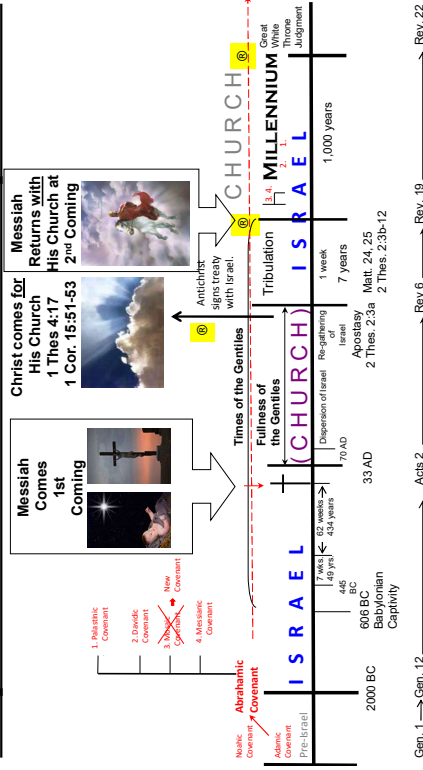
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- But then Peter, in his excitement, makes 2 blunders in 1 statement:

Blunder #1 He puts Jesus on the same par as Moses and Elijah.

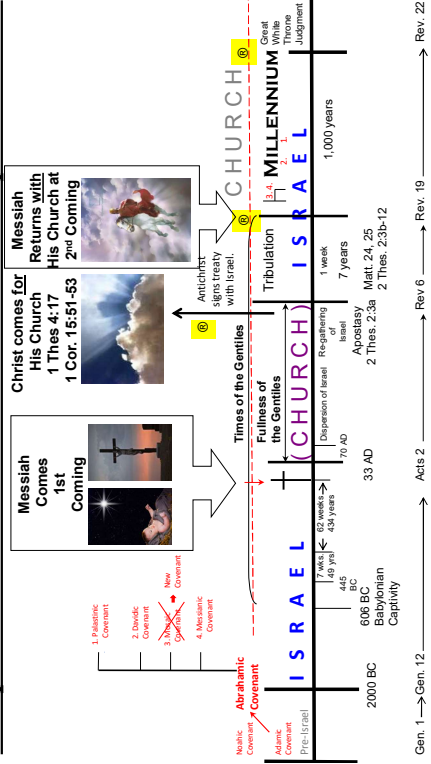
Blunder #2 He bypasses the cross.

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



Ⓜ = Resurrection

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- "Let's make this permanent." We have 3 members here of the Kingdom of God. Let's begin the Millennium.
- Why tabernacles? Because down in Jerusalem at that very time they were celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles.
- The Feast of Tabernacles will be celebrated in the Millennial Kingdom as a remembrance (Zech. 14:16): 1. of the exodus from Egypt. 2. of the exodus and deliverance from sin.
- But not so fast Peter. What about the cross?

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“cloud” - the Shekinah glory from the O.T. God's presence when Israel wandered in the wilderness.

- The 3 were terrified.

35 Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"

- God speaks. He says 3 things:
 1. Jesus is my Son.
 2. He has been chosen by me.
 - ἐκλεγόμενοι – to choose, one who is chosen.
 3. Listen to Him

Heb 1:1-2

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

2 in these last days **has spoken to us in His Son,**

2 Peter 1:17-19

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" —

18 and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

19 **So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.**

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“As wonderful as these experiences are, they are not the basis for a consistent Christian life. That can come only through the Word of God. Experiences come and go, but the Word remains. Our recollection of past experiences will fade, but God's Word never changes. The farther we get from these events, the less impact they make on our lives. That was why the Father said, "Hear Him!" and why Peter made this same emphasis on the Word.”

- Warren Wiersbe

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Matt 17:9

9 As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."

- Again the time was not right. This is the sovereignty of God and the actions of man working hand in hand to bring about the will and plan of God.

Application

1. Jesus, in the previous section of Scripture that we looked at last time, called us to self-denial, and to take up our cross daily and follow Him. The question is, is Jesus more valuable, more precious, more important than anything and everything, for you to forsake it all and follow Him?
2. God has spoken in the cloud about His Son. Therefore is Jesus worth living for? Is He worth denying yourself for? Is He worth dying for? Are you willing to lose everything for Him?
3. There is no one equal to Him. There is no one greater than Him. He is the Chosen One. He is the Son of God. Therefore listen to Him.
4. What possibly could be more important in your life than the Lord Jesus? Luke says **NOTHING!**