

The Revelation of The Transfiguration

Mt 16:28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom. **Mt 17:1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. 3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. 4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. 5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. 6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. 7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. 8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. 9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.**

Have you ever wondered what Jesus meant when he said? **Mt 16:28 "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom."** I always thought this was some mystery of the end of time, but I could never get it to come into harmony with what was said; about some of those present would see this come to pass.

We understand from previous text in chapter 16; Jesus is talking to his disciples and saying some of them would see Christ coming in his kingdom before they died. I was listening to an exposition of Matthew by Vernon McGee; who pointed out some things, to which the grace of God opened my understanding, which I shall try to share with you.

Mt 17:1 "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light." Six days, after Jesus made the announcement that some of them should see the Son of man and the kingdom of God come, Jesus takes these three disciples into the mountain and is transfigured before them. Transfigured is from the Greek word metamorphoo (pronounced; met-am-or-fo'-o) and means; *to transform (literally or figuratively, "metamorphose")*: *change, transfigure, transform*. An example of metamorphosis is a caterpillar changing into a butterfly. From this definition we understand; Jesus was transformed, from a natural person to resurrected body state, in the sight of these three disciples. In other words, these men saw the true glory of the Christ.

Earlier in Matthew 16; Jesus had questioned his disciples about who he was and Peter had declared; **Mt 16:16 "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."** Here, in **Mt 17:5**; we see that God says that Jesus is his beloved Son. **"and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."** God confirms; these disciples are seeing the glorified Christ revealed in the transfiguration. In other words, they see Jesus as he will be in glory, and this revelation, of the glory he will have in the eternal kingdom is on display.

This reminds us and gives us clarification of what the scripture says in: **Joh 17:5 "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world**

was." The transfiguration was the revealing, of the glory that Jesus had with God the Father before the world existed, and before he came into the world incarnate. This reference in **2Peter** was what Vernon McGee pointed out that God used to open my eyes to see: **2Pe 1:16-18; 16 "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount."**

Now that we put the scripture from 2Peter with the accounts, given by Matthew, Mark, and Luke; we understand that these three disciples, Peter, James and John, actually saw the Christ, the Son of God revealed in his glory. This gives us the picture of the glorified body in which Christ will come the second time; to gather together all of the kingdom of God from the earth, which will be in eternity.

We also notice that Peter, James, and John, fell on their faces when the voice of God spoke. We see that Jesus touched them and said; "**Arise, and be not afraid.**" I believe that when the time of resurrection of the dead comes, along with the transformation of those still alive, and we see Jesus coming in his glory, we too shall fall on our faces before him, and we also shall hear the same words of Christ; "**Arise, and be not afraid.**"

What a glorious revelation, of the transfiguration, from God was given to Peter, James, and John; who were allowed to see the glorified Christ while they were yet alive. What a glorious revelation of the glorified Christ, which God has revealed unto his people, who are look for the coming of the glorified Christ while they are yet alive.

In the midst of all the trials and tribulations of life; we can see what Peter was saying in: **1Pe 4:13 "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."** Peter is reminding us that, though we might suffer much in this old sinful world, when Christ returns to receive his ready bride, we shall see the glorified Christ and shall have exceeding joy. Lastly, when Christ returns, we will be partakers of "**The Revelation of The Transfiguration**" Remember, one of the definitions of transfigure is to change, which is what will happen to us as seen in: **1Co 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."** Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah! Come Lord Jesus, Come quickly!