

Mark 9:1-13 Glory Revealed

When my kids were younger – one of our favorite shows to watch was – Extreme Makeover!

A) Take these homes – wreck – transform them into **something magical** – help some family.

B) Sometimes – **like a recent episode** – they would tear a house completely down and start from the ground up. – **MOVE THAT BUS!**

C) Total and complete – transformation

What Jesus does with a life that is yielded to Him is even better than that!

A) He does a work on the inside of a person – the heart - that is then manifested on the outside!

B) The more it is revealed – Beautiful

C) The person actually looks the same on the outside
Tattoos – same look – but there is a transformation

1) Change in the countenance – that is seen on the outside because of His presence on the inside.

D) In the text before us today I think we can get some insight into how that transformation takes place!

Mark Chapter 9

Mark 9:1

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."

A) At first glance this looks like the end of the discussion from the end of ch.8 – and it does go with that story – but it is also linked to what happens next

B) This is what we would call a transition verse:

1) The Disciples are wondering what he is talking about { Some scholars have thought he was talking about his 2nd coming.

C) Highly unlikely because it hasn't happened and all of these men would die

D) NO, Jesus is talking about what is going to happen in six days – **he is going to hike up Mount Hermon** –

1) Taking three of these guys with him and they are going to see Him in His glory! – {He knows what is coming even though they don't.

2 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. 3 His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. 4 And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. 5 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, {Lit. Peter spoke – Peter seems to be one of those guys bothered by silence - So Peter spoke and said **"Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"** —

{Remember Mark is Peter's account of the story of Jesus and it is almost as if – when Peter is telling this –Mark asked – why did you say that? What were you thinking? – He adds here} 6 because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid.

{ The rule is: If you are standing in the presence of God and you don't know what to say it is better to say nothing at all.}

7 And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" 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. 10 So they kept this word to themselves, questioning what the rising from the dead meant.

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." {Matthew tells us that He said this referring to John the Baptist.}

So here we have the transfiguration – Recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke's gospels. –

A)Something appears once it is important – if it appears several times it is very important.

B) Now in looking at this, the context is very important – Notice who He brings – James, John – 2 brothers – and Peter.

C)Peter – catch the significance here.

1)This is the guy who a week before – Jesus asked the disciples – Who do men say I am

Moses, Elijah, John? Prophet – Who do you say that I am?

A)Peter said, You are the Christ – the son of the living God. - Revelation

B)In fact – Jesus says – **Peter this didn't come to you by human knowledge** – but My Father revealed this to you.

C)In other words – **Peter you didn't get this because you are the smartest guy in the bunch** – but My Father has given you divine revelation

But then an hour or so later – Jesus is talking about having to go to the cross and suffer and die – Jesus says to Peter

A)Get behind me Satan – Rebuke –

E)So now when Jesus is going to go up to Mount Herman and be revealed in His Glory –

1)Who is last guy you would think he would bring to witness something so spectacular? – Peter right – the instrument of Satan.

This just reminds us of the fact that Jesus is the God of the 2nd and 3rd chance - So gracious

A)See Jesus is so different from us – Someone has a major screw up and we black ball them – {Marked – I am not using that guy!}

B)We put people on Probation for things like that - Three strikes and you are out and that is strike #1 –

1) **NOT JESUS**

C)**Six months from this moment** – Peter is going to deny that he even knew Jesus – not once/ not twice/ **THREE TIMES.**

D)**Wife – How would you react if your husband – denied knowing you – three times – You with her? 1) Nope? – Never seen her before –**

What does Jesus do – after the Resurrection – forgives Him – makes him the spokesperson for the early church!

A)Jesus is so different from us! – He shows so much more grace!

B)Oh that our hearts would be more like His!

So Jesus takes Peter James and John – hikes up about 9,000 feet Mount Hermon

A)How far up they went we are not sure.

B)They get up there Luke tells us that Jesus begins to pray which **is a signal for the boys to take a nap.**

1)They seem to always be sleeping when Jesus is praying

C)But Luke says – **As He was praying** – (note that – come back) He was transfigured before them.

What was the Transfiguration? What happened here?

A)V.3 DESCRIBES it this way. **3 His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.**

B) Matthew 17:2-3 **“His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.”**

C) Luke 9:29 **“The appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.”**

1)Flashing –

Put the three accounts together - Matthew tells us that Jesus countenance was shining like the Sun

A)Mark says his robe was whiter than any man made product could bleach it – **whiter than Tide**

B)Luke says – His countenance was Flashing –

D)There was a Radiance! Like never seen before!

E)Perhaps it was the bright light that woke them up – **Our shudders**

What this IS NOT: Listen this is not heaven shining down on Jesus like a spot light

A)Now it says he was transfigured – **the greek word is Metamorphoo** from whence we get our English word – Metamorphosis

B)We are familiar with that word because we learned in school that is what happens when the 1) Caterpillar climbs into the cocoon and comes out a Butterfly – METAMORPHOSIS

What the Butterfly is, is what the Caterpillar was and what the Caterpillar was, is what the butterfly is

A)There is a change on the inside that is seen on the outside. That is what Metamorphosis is -

B)Transfiguration is the opposite of Hypocrisy!

C)Hypocrisy is trying to look like something on the outside –that you are not on the inside.

Happens every Sunday – trying to get the family ready for church – trying to get here by first service

A)But things are running slow at home and it is looking like you are going to be late for 2nd service –

B)You **are getting angry and you** say – *If you don't get in the car right now you are going to get it* – **And Don't forget your Bible**

The Drive here is marked by Silence – eerily quiet – Park – walk in

A)Greeter at the door welcomes you – How are you brother – great Praise the Lord – glad to be here (Not really)

Aa)Most of us have been there a time or two

B)Denise and I have the privilege of leading our marriage ministry – **called Thrive** – 2nd Tuesday

C)That 2nd Tuesday of the month – **is always filled with Warfare.**

D)Part of our job is to get the Sanctuary converted into a banquet room where 200 plus people are going to show for dinner.

1)**Short window of time** – once school gets out – Pressure

Tables chairs – decorations – doesn't always happen smoothly

A)My wife is given to detail a lot more than I am.

B) One of the weeks – she is about to have a melt down – **remember Premenopause-**

“ I don't like you on Thrive Tuesdays”

C)Awesome for the couple leading the marriage Ministry.

That night Pancho – calls couples to stand – and say these 5 key phrases

A)Denise and I are on stage – I was wrong, it was my fault, forgive me I love you –

B) We are standing there – **Cracking up** – no one knew what happened that day!

C) Hypocrisy is being on the outside – what you ARE NOT on the inside.

Transfiguration is opposite of that! – What is on the INSIDE is being seen on the outside.

A) What was Jesus on the inside? God! Fully God – yet fully man

B) But here is what we need to understand – Here on earth there was an aspect of His Deity that no one saw –

1) **Concealed in His humanity!** – HIS GLORY

What Paul is referring to in Philippians 2:6

“Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.”

C) If they can't see my glory – then I am not going!

D) Jesus took the form of a human – servant – lowly poor –

1) No one saw His glory – the radiance – until this moment – **His glory was revealed** –

What was on the INSIDE – suddenly shinning forth on the Outside!

A) The **veil of His flesh is ripping open** and who he really is – is being seen

B) So As Jesus is transfigured before them- Moses and Elijah appear.

Why Moses and Elijah?

A) First I want to mention that the disciples recognized these guys. – **No need for introductions** –

“Disciples Moses and Elijah - Moses ...Disciples”

B) They just knew them – which I think is a good indication that we will recognize each other in Heaven. – Know family **Friends** – **Bible characters** –

C) But why these two and not Abraham, not Joseph or Jacob – why Moses and Elijah?

1) I think that it is because of what they represented.

Moses was the law giver! The law of God came from Moses – the moral code for Israel.

A) And **Elijah was the embodiment of the prophets** –

Aa) He was one of the greatest and most Powerful of the Prophets

B) **Prayed – didn't rain three yrs** – prayed again – poured – and of course his showdown on Mount Carmel with the 450 prophets of **Baal –legendary!**

C) So these two guys represented the two key components of the Jewish religious system – The Law and the prophets.

1) Jesus came as the fulfillment of those two things.

Now Luke's gospel tell us that Moses and Elijah were talking with Jesus about his decease – literally His Exodus. Luke 9:31

A) Moses thinking: **My exodus was a failure – I got them out of Egypt but never really got them where they were supposed to go**

B.) Elijah is thinking – **I tried to reform your Exodus**

1) I wasn't successful

C) God got them into the land – but Egypt was still in them!

1) Elijah tried to bring reform but was unsuccessful

D) Moses and Elijah ended their perspective ministries like everyone ends their ministries – **unfinished!!! Not completed**

But 1400 yrs later /- about 6months from this moment here in Mark 9 –Jesus would hang on a cross outside of Jerusalem – Declare – Finished!

A)What the Law couldn't do through its rules and regulations

B)What the Prophets couldn't accomplish through their reforms –

1)Jesus did that day when He died for the sins of Humanity!

C)He paid the price – He solved the Problem – Made a way to bring man back into fellowship with God!

As Jesus is talking to Moses and Elijah –

A)Peter and the boys are awakened by the light –

B)And Peter says : Lord it is good that we are here! – Let me build – 3 tents WOW!

C)Moses and Elijah – look – who is that? Where did you find him? –

1)Sure knows how to ruin a holy moment.

Jesus probably said, I remember you at the burning bush – buddy – saying – I can't talk – **running off into the desert without your sandals**

A)Elijah –remember after your big moment Mount Carmel – you ran away like a girl – from the Queen – {Over dramatic – just kill me God – I am only left

B) Give the guy a break! So Peter opens his mouth and inserts his foot!

Now – Many scholars suggest – that Peter by his comment is seeking to put Jesus on the same plain as Moses and Elijah –

A)Moses representing the law- Elijah representing the prophets

B)Three tabs – 3 places of worship - One for you – one for the law – one for the prophets

C)Personally I don't think – Peter is that smart – that deep – that theological

1)His one big moment – Jesus says – flesh and blood –

No – I think Peter is doing what we often do!

A)Lord, let me preserve this! This is awesome – let's just stay here

B)And Peter wants to do something for God!

C)So God the father interrupts him! **Only time in the Bible where God tells someone to SHUT UP –**

Mark 9:7 “And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!"

D)Not time to work – Peter – time to be quiet and listen!

Interesting the impact that this event would have on these guys!

A) From that day on they probably walked a little further behind Jesus – hoping it might happen again – he would start to glow!

B)Probably couldn't wait to tell the other disciples – **so bummed when Jesus said – Don't tell anyone –**

1)Where did you guys go ! – NOWHERE - what happened? NOTHING!

C)But they were greatly impacted!

Peter wrote 2 Peter 1:16-18

16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

John 1:14

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

We beheld his glory: Jesus was the embodiment of all that God is – We saw His glory – summed up in these two things!

A) Grace and truth!

B) It is that combination that makes Christianity messy – doesn't it!

C) We tend to want it one way or the other – all grace – especially as it relates to us –

D) Truth is good for everyone else!

Woman caught in the very act of adultery

A) We watch Jesus – deal with her accusers in truth

B) He who is without sinstone!

1) Writes in the dirt – probably their sins – they drop their rocks – all leave one by one

C) **It is just Jesus and the woman** – and **she is guilty**

1) Jesus is the only one without sin – who could condemn her

D) We watch expecting Him to let her have it!

E) He says – **Woman where are your accusers ?**

1) Gone.... Neither do I – go and sin no more!

What? How?

A) Grace and truth being manifested side by side in the person of Jesus!

B) We see Jesus dealing with the rich young ruler

1) You really want Eternal life – go sell ...follow me

C) And then we see him with the Thief on the cross – hoodlum – believes – Today..... Paradise

1) In a moment – we think – NOT FAIR !

D) Parable workers – pays the guys who worked one hour – the same as the guys who worked all day.

1) NOT FAIR –

E) Both examples are the perfect blending of God's grace and truth seen side by side!

1) Doesn't make sense – but it is marvelous

Greatest demonstration of it was seen at the Cross

A) Interesting – John 12 – Speaking of the cross – Jesus said – now is the time glorified!

B) The cross would be the greatest display of God's glory – His grace and truth – seen side by side.

C) **Truth** – Sin cannot go unpunished!

1) A just God must deal justly with Sinners – there is a price to be paid.

D) **Grace** – God would pay it Himself – God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself

E) **The transfiguration is an amazing story** – because it magnifies the Deity of Christ – Saw His glory

1) Saw His majesty !

F) It pointed to the glory that be revealed at Calvary!
Three things to take away:

#1 Jesus came to finish what Moses and Elijah couldn't Do !

A) Calvary – **He declared – FINISHED !** – Price was paid – debt was won!

B) He came to give new life to those who would put their trust in Him

#2 The Christian life is about transformation:

A) It is about getting He who is now living on the inside – Jesus by His spirit living in our hearts –

B) The Christian life is about getting Him who is on the inside to be manifested more on the outside.

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

C) Promise of the New Covenant – New heart – new mind – Jesus is not into reformation – not trying to reform you – He wants to transform you!

D) We would begin to resemble those – manifesting a sweet combination of Grace and truth.

#3 How does it happen?

A) When did it happen with Jesus – Luke 9:29 **“As He prayed”** =

B) It happens when we get alone – and sit at his feet and listen to Him

1) Stop and quiet our hearts – Quiet place, quiet time, quiet heart

C) We have to stop being so busy – so distracted –

Consider 2 Corinthians 3:18 **“But we all, with unveiled face, {Veil has been lifted} beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. “**

James likens the Bible to a mirror – reveals what it sees!

A) So we get into the word – we are looking at Jesus –

B) The word reveals Him to us - something amazing happens – as we behold Him – **God does a work in us - by His Spirit.**

1) Transformation - We start to reflect him

C) Moses – on the MT with God – came down – His face was aglow

In other words there was a visible reality from the time he spent alone with God.

A) Same is true of us – You spend time in His presence – prayer – the word

Basking in His glory!

B) Result: People can tell you have been with Jesus –

C) **Countenance is different** – Your perspective is different

1) Your tolerance and patient level is different

D) You see people differently

On almost any day when I am short with people, temper, overly critical

A) I can almost always look back to that morning – same result – **No devotions or a half hearted time of devotion.**

B) When did the transfiguration happen? As he was praying

C) **Precious church** –

Take the time – sit at his feet – bask in His presence

Feed on His word –

C) As we behold Him – we are being transformed into His image- from glory to glory!

D) The glory of who He is will be seen in us

We might be people who are marked by that awesome combination of Grace and truth!