

Jesus Messiah

Living the Liturgical Year

Luke 9:28-36

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. **29** And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. **30** Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. **31** They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. **34** While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. **35** Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" **36** When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

REFLECTION

This turning point in Jesus' life and ministry marks his role as teacher, preacher, and healer in Galilee, to Savior and Messiah as he enters Jerusalem. This "transfiguration" story appears in three gospels.

What have been the main turning points, or chapters of your life? Which were expected? Unexpected?

Discuss the following background and context that Luke provides us:

Part 1 (v. 28): The setting of this passage is eight days after Jesus feeds the crowd of 5,000. Jesus asks crowds who they think he is (Luke 9:18-20), to which they reply: John the Baptist, Elijah, or another prophet. He asks the disciples who they think he is: Peter publicly proclaims him as Messiah.

Part 2 (v. 29-31): The contrast of light and darkness as Jesus prays emphasizes Him as the divine, not just a prophet or teacher. Moses, the giver of the law, faces the One who has come to fulfill the law. The great prophet Elijah focuses his attention on Jesus and points toward His mission to Jerusalem.

Part 3 (v. 34-36): One of two places God's voice is heard. The first, during Jesus' baptism: "this is my Son, my Beloved, in whom I am pleased," and here, "this is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

When we realize Jesus as Savior and Messiah, not just preacher and teacher, a new chapter begins for us. **Why does our brokenness require more than just good teaching? How does the transfiguration remind us that Jesus did not go to Jerusalem merely to suffer, but to accomplish something?**

Dear God, may the fullness of who you are wash over us this Lent, and cleanse us from the inside out.