

Sermon Reflections

Glimpse of Glory (Part 2) Matthew 17:1–13

Summary: Let this glimpse of Christ's glory, assure you that following Jesus is always worth it — no matter how hard, or how costly.

Four directives to help keep God's glory in front of us as we come to the finish line of faith:

1. See, in Jesus, God's Full Glory (vv. 1-2)

2. Hear, in Jesus, God's Unmatched Authority (vv. 3-5)

3. Find, in Jesus, God's Great Compassion (vv. 6-8)

- God's compassion can be perfectly seen in Jesus' relationship with us. What are some other examples of God's compassion in the Old Testament? What are some examples of God's compassion in Jesus' ministry? How would you communicate God's compassion to an unbeliever in your life?
- God's glory blazes brightly in the mercy offered through Christ. In life, many things can dim our eyes and turn our heads from God's glory and His compassion. What is distracting you from seeing God's compassion and mercy? Why is it so easy to forsake God's mercy? How can you remind yourself and others of God's compassion?
- For the believer, our relationship with God is through His merciful grace. How is God's mercy and glory reflected in the life of the believer? What does 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 have to say about this?

4. Grasp, in Jesus, God's Veiled Glory (vv. 9-13)

- The transfiguration, a brief glimpse of glory, is a special preview given to us in the Christian life so that we would hold fast and endure. Why is it necessary for us to be reminded of God's glory in this way? What hope is offered to the Christian in this glimpse of God's glory? What scriptures would you turn to, to see God's glory?
- On one awesome, terrible day, God's glory will be revealed for all humanity to see ... yet, right now suffering veils God's glory in this present life. Jesus, the Son of Man, suffered during His earthly ministry, likewise suffering continues presently for the people of God. How should we view suffering in the Christian life? What is suffering? (Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Habakkuk 3:17-19; 1 Peter 4:12-5:11.) Where does our hope lie? How does God's glory intersect with our suffering?
- Suffering and trials are markers of the Christian walk. Thankfully, we do not face these trials alone — Christ's blood has brought us into God's family. Why are Christian relationships within the body of Christ crucial in enduring the suffering and trials of this life?
 - How can you come alongside your fellow brothers and sisters in their sufferings? What tools has God given us to help the body?
 - What are some ways that you can be more open with fellow believers so that they can walk alongside you through suffering? What characterizes our relationships with one another (1 John 4:11-24)?