

"A Mountain Top Experience"

Bible Reading Mark 9:2-10

Transfiguration Sunday

Christ's transfiguration, relates to a change in bodily appearance, just as Moses' face was radiant when he came down from Mt Sinai (Ex 34:29.) Jesus takes three disciples, Peter, James and John, up a mountain where they have a *mountain top experience* - Jesus is revealed to them in His glory.

During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus had said that he had not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to fulfil them. (Matt 5:17.) On this mountain, his three disciples see Him talking to Moses and Elijah. Moses was a prophet and "the Lawgiver" and Elijah one of the greatest of the prophets.

The first three gospels all record this event and it comes shortly after Peter has the revelation that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, and Jesus saying that, "some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

There are a number of occasions when these three were taken with Jesus to some significant event. Peter would be Jesus' rock, James would be the first disciple to be martyred and John would be the last disciple to die and the one to write the book Revelation.

Concluding the transfiguration, a cloud enveloped Jesus, Moses and Elijah, and a voice from it said, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Mk 9:7b.

The words, "listen to him," have the connotation of *obey him*.

Peter wrote that they were eyewitnesses to Jesus Christ's majesty, in 2 Peter 1:16-18, and that they saw and heard him receive honour and glory from God.

What is *your* response to knowing that Jesus is the Son of God?