

Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church
Fall CE: ICHTHUS –
Class 3: The Mountain – Transfiguration

Class Outline

Class 1 –	The Manger	Incarnation
Class 2 –	The River	Baptism
Class 3 –	The Mountain	Transfiguration
Class 4 –	The Cross	Passion
Class 5 –	The Tomb	Resurrection
Class 6 –	The Throne	Ascension
Class 7 –	The Return	Coming

THE TRANSFIGURATION Who is He whose clothes now shine, on the mountain top he climbed

Luke 9:28-36 Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹ who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” ³⁶ And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

I. At the transfiguration Peter, John and James (and us indirectly) are given a veiled glimpse of his true glory

Isaiah 53:2 Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Transfiguration texts

- Matthew 17:2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.
- Mark 9:2-3 And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them
- Luke 9:29 the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white.

Related Texts

- Exodus 34:29-35 ²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.

- *Luke 2:8-9* And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

In Lesser Ways

- The benediction – *Numbers 6:25-26* “The Lord make his face shine upon you...the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace”
- *Ps 27:4* - that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple

Impactful to Peter

- *Peter 1:16-17* “¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

Application: How do we grow?

What is healthy fear? How is it pursued, cultivated?

- *Isaiah 66:2b* But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.
- *Psalm 2:10-12* Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

II. Moses and Elijah - a conversation with Jesus

Matthew 17:3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Mark 9:4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

Luke 9:30-33 And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Moses and Elijah –

Topic of Conversation – His Departure

Jesus, left alone -

- *Matthew 17:8* And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.
- *Mark 9:8* And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only
- *Luke 9:36* And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone
- *Luke 24:25-27* And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and

enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

III. Proclamation – God spoke from the cloud

Matthew 17:5-7 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear."

Mark 9:7 And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him."

Luke 9:34-35 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!"

The Cloud

- Exodus 13:21-22 "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way"
- Exodus 24:15-18 -Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mt. Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days.
- Numbers 9:15 - On the day that the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony.
- 1 Kings 8:10-11 - And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

The Voice from the Cloud

- Deuteronomy 18:15 - The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen
- Psalm 2:10-12 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹² Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

How do we grow?

What is it to listen to Christ?

Who is He whose clothes now shine, on the mountain top he climbed?

Tis the Lord! O wondrous story! Tis the Lord! King of glory! At his feet we humbly fall; Crown him, Crown him Lord of all.