## Matthew 17:1-13

## Show Me Your Glory

#### I. Slide2 Announce:

- A. Slide2-4 Larry Harvest Festival. Real Tues. Fresh Hope. Intro VM.
- B. Slide5 Victor Marx.
- C. Brian Join us in sanct for our Children at Risk mtg 3-5pm, w/VM.

#### II. Slide6 Intro: Show Me Your Glory

- A. Remember what Moses asked back in Ex.33:18? Please, show me Your glory.
- B. 6 days have passed since Peter tried to barricade Christ from His Cross.
  - 1. Now, we have before us the *dress rehearsal* of His 2nd Coming, in all His splendor.
  - 2. Slide7 Here we get a Glimpse of Jesus' Glory. This whole story is about GLORY.
- C. Note, Behold or *look/see* used twice in vs.3 & 5. As if Matthew couldn't even tell the story w/o stopping to catch his breath...at the sheer staggering **wonder** of it.
  - 1. 3 disciples get to *catch a glimpse* of the intersection between heaven & earth, as they observe Jesus in His heavenly glory.
- D. This was the only time His glory, *veiled in human flesh*, was allowed to shine through.
  - 1. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity, Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

### III. Slide8 A GLANCE AT GLORY (1,2)

- A. Just as *high altitude* transforms a landscape in the **physical** world...so does real prayer in the **spiritual** realm.
  - 1. You climb to the top, & things you thought so **massive**, are now so **puny**. Other objects you greatly **underestimated** look **very impressive** now.
- B. Slide9 Look who Jesus loves taking up on Mountain Tops?
  - 1. He took Peter with his blunders (*not so Lord*). And he took the sons of thunder, who had asked to call fire down from heaven on the very people Jesus came to save. [He loves taking us to mountain tops also]

- 2
- Maybe Jesus this week, is going to invite you up onto a mountaintop, to give you a God's eye view of your situation. To show you your perspective is skewed. To show you those big things that you see, are actually really small ...from His perspective...from that vantage point.
- C. Slide10 Transfigured Greek / metamorFO a change on the outside that comes from the inside.
  - 1. For that brief moment, they saw Him as the heavenly Lord.
  - 2. The prefix *Trans* means literally *across* (Transatlantic flight).
    - a) In the Transfiguration a limit or barrier was crossed. It was the crossing the line between the natural & supernatural; between human & divine.

### IV. Slide11 GOD GIVEN GUIDES (3) best pic on Mo & Elijah

- A. THE EXTRATERRESTRIALS
- B. (4) Why Moses & Elijah? [Moses had been dead 1400 years; Elijah 900 years]
  - 1. Both these men had previously conversed w/God on mountaintops.
    - a) Moses on Mnt. Sinai (Ex.31:18). Elijah on Mnt. Horeb [Sinai's whole mnt range] 1Kngs19:9
  - 2. Both had been shown Gods glory.
  - 3. Both represent something: Moses the Law and Elijah the Prophets.
  - 4. Both had amazing departures from earth.
  - 5. Both had interesting deaths. *Moses* died & was buried by God. *Elijah* was raptured up into heaven in a flaming chariot.
  - 6. Both were talking to Jesus about His decease (death/departure) Lk.9:31.
    - a) I used to think, what a *theological* conversation that must have been? ... Now I think, what a *relational* conversation that must have been?
      - (1) When facing the hardest thing in your life, you want *perseverance*, *encouragement*, *hope*, *promises*...not terms & definitions.
      - (2) His Suffering would not be an **accident**, but an **accomplishment**.
      - (3) They came to encourage Him to Go On!
    - b) And this encouragement helped Jesus to walk *the way of the cross*.

- C. Slide12 We learn a lot from them showing up...in thinking of saints that have died & gone b4 us
  - 1. They are still the individuals they were they aren't extinct.
  - 2. They have continuing personalities Moses was still Moses. Elijah still Elijah. There was personal identity & recognizable differentiation between them.
  - 3. They are still human beings they didn't grow wings, or become angels, they remained human just like Jesus after His res.
  - 4. They are alive consciously nothing here of soul sleep, unless they were walking in their sleep...but then the greater miracle for both to be sleep walking at the same time, in the same place, & talking in their sleep about the same thing.
  - 5. They are in glorified bodies they can suddenly appear or disappear.
  - 6. They are similar to, yet different from, the bodies they had like Jesus' res body, similar in structure, different in texture.
  - 7. They enjoyed fellowship here with Jesus.
  - 8. They were in touch with earth they were alive to concerns here on earth, especially matters of salvation.

# V. Slide13a SUFFERING LEADS TO GLORY (4-13)

- A. (4) What a great reminder there are times to *NOT DO*.
  - 1. Peter, a man of *action*, always looking for something to *do, say, build*.
    - a) But, we must make way for *space in our lives, a time of stillness, contemplation, wonder, adoration, meditation. A time for awed reverence* especially in the presence of the *superior Glory*.
    - b) Zec 2:13 *Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation.*
- B. 3 tabernacles/tents Peter wanted to make the event into a perpetual Feast of Tabernacles.
  - 1. Peter went from, *not so Lord* (in regards to his suffering & death) to *let's immortalize this moment of Glory.*
  - 2. Peter was saying, *Let's stay on this mnt of glory, & not go to Jerusalem & die.*a) (Pete) Now that's how I like my Messiah, *a glorified one, not a dead one!*
  - 3. We like our heroes *bright, shiny, strong, w/capes, who can fly.* 
    - a) But **suffering** leads to **glory**.

4

- (1) Peter emphasizes this in 1Pet.1:6-8,11.
- (2) So I guess Peter, deity & death are not irreconcilable after all.
- (3) They are not a contradiction, but a consistency. A means to a great end.
- 4. I don't think Peter wanted to go back down to *the common things* again after he saw the glory. [Nacho: *Don't you want a little taste of the glory, to see what it tastes like?*]
- 5. Slide13b Barclay, The moment of glory does not exist for its own sake, it exist to clothe the common things with a sheen & a radiance they never had before.
  - a) Was a job of hewing out small limestone caves for dead bodies important?
  - b) Imagine just 1 man in that 1st cent, lazy & tired 1 day at work & sloughing off on just this one tomb in Jerusalem. What if he would've made it just a little bit shorter. Or chiseled a weak shelf that wouldn't support a body.
  - c) But who ended up viewing his work? *Only...*the son of God, 2 angels, the apostles, the women. And if we have the right tomb today, hundreds of thousands of people still view it monthly.
  - d) Slide14 Martin Luther King Jr. *If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michaelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven & earth will pause to say, Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well* 
    - (1) Be faithful in the common things, we can't live in glory yet...but it's coming.
- C. Lk.9:32 But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, *they saw His glory* and the two men who stood with Him.
  - 1. What a snapshot of humanity being glorified.
  - 2. For that brief moment they saw Him as the heavenly Lord.
    - a) Heb.1:1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory & the express image of His person.
- D. Slide15a Different Glory
  - 1. Moses Glory Ex.33 Moses' face shone with *Reflected* glory.

5

- Slide15b Jesus Glory Christ didn't reflect the brightness of divine glory, but His glory is the brightness of divine glory.
  - a) Jesus didn't reflect light but was *the source* of light.
  - b) This is the glory He willingly veiled...for us.
    - (1) At crucial moments the splendor of Jesus' deity burst through the cloak of His humanity. R.C.Sproul
  - c) This was an open display for the disciples to see Jesus' glory that He had **before** the Incarnation & also a **foreshadowing** of Jesus' resurrection & return.
  - d) Jn.17:5 Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.
    - (1) This was His own glory showing through.
      - (a) Not just a reflection, not just His clothes. This showed plainly His *divinity*...glory from within.
- 3. Slide15c Our Future Glory What is it? What is, us being glorified?
  - a) We are promised, on Paul's *golden chain of redemption* in Rom.8:30 whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
  - b) Written in the past tense because *the final step is so certain*, that in God's eyes, it is as good as finished/complete.
  - c) Did you know our glory is just like Jesus Glory Phil.3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will <u>transform</u> our lowly body that it may be <u>conformed</u> to His glorious body.

(1) Jn.17:22 (Jesus to Father) I have given them the glory that you gave me.

- E. Slide16 So, our nature will be made whole. Our heart will be set free. Our sin completely eradicated. The possibility of sinning forever extinguished. It will not be fleeting, but permanent.
- F. Slide17a (5) Now the Father Gives *Course Confirmation*.
  - 1. Earlier Jesus had *the 2 greats* from Israel as His encouragement, but now *the very voice of the Father* came to Him telling Him that He was *on the right way*, *the right path*...and that He was well pleased by His course/life.

6

- G. Slide17b A bright cloud (the Shekinah Glory) was often used to represent *the presence* of Almighty God.
  - 1. Ex: at the giving of the Law. At the Tabernacle & later the Temple. Here. At His Ascension. And later at His Return. [Heb. *Kabod* - Gk. *doxa*]
  - 2. It is been 600 years since anyone seen the Shekinah glory of God.
- H. Slide17c Hear Him Hearing God's word is more important than *seeing* Gods signs.
  - 1. The father didn't say, *This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased,* **see** *this sign*. No, <u>hear</u> Him.
    - a) Peter never forgot *hearing* this spectacular event. 2 Pet. 1:17,18 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.* & we **heard** this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.
    - b) But let's not diminish *seeing* this spectacular event..John never forgot seeing it. Jn.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.
  - All 3 men needed to *hear* this: James was the 1st to die. John was to suffer persecution on Patmos. Peter experienced many occasions of suffering & would end up giving his life for Christ.
  - 3. The Father interrupted Peter to remind him...Hear HIM!
    - a) *Hear Him* in route to Jerusalem. *Hear Him* through the suffering. *Hear Him* to the cross...*hear Him*.
    - b) We also need to hear from Him in His Word. As we look into the <u>Word</u> of God, we see the <u>Son</u> of God, & are transfigured by the <u>Spirit</u> of God, into the <u>glory</u> of God.