

**God on the Mountain**  
**Mar 21, 2010**  
Exodus 24:12-18 and Mark 9:2-8  
Dr. Jeff H. McCrory Jr.

**Synopsis:**

We live between two mountains, the mount of glory and the mount of suffering. I prefer the glory, don't you?

The next few weeks we will journey with Jesus from Mt Transfiguration to Mt Calvary. Both are the gospel. One cannot have glory without suffering, or suffering without glory. The God present in Jesus is both glory and suffering.

I.

**From Suffering to Glory**

Mark 8:31 The Son of Man must undergo great suffering

Last week: Caesarea Philippi and Peter's Confession

READ Mark 8:27-30

- Caesarea Philippi = very pagan city, Pan grotto
- Many options: John Baptist, Elijah, prophets?
- Peter chooses
- God chooses ("flesh and blood" Matt version)

We choose Jesus, find God choosing us

Point of conversion, say the words ourselves

E.g. my journey of faith (Baptist versus Presbyterian)

-each week give my life to Jesus (this week deacon)

-never give my life to Jesus (my story)

\*Danger =

We choose

God chooses

We do not yet understand

READ Mark 8:32-33 Suffering

Journey of discipleship begins: *Good and Beautiful God*

1. Change minds
2. Change behavior
3. Community
4. Presence of Holy Spirit

\*Some of us have never chosen

\*Some keep choosing and wonder why we don't grow

II.

**From Glory to Suffering**

Mark 9:2 And he was transfigured before them

This week: Mt Transfiguration and glory  
-probably near Caesarea Philippi = Hermon

READ Mark 9:2-8

Confirmation of Jesus' glory = yes he is Messiah

How does God do this? In ways they understand

Six days	= Moses goes up Sinai (Exod 24)
Up the Mountain	= Sinai (Exod 24)
Leaders	= Moses and Sinai (Exod 24)
Clouds	= Sinai and journey (Num 9)
Dwellings	= tabernacle (Exod 40)
Transfigure	= Son of Man dazzling (Dan 7)
Elijah	= With Moses/Day of Lord (Mal 4)

SUM: Mt Sinai and Mt Transfiguration = God present in Jesus

God confirms for disciples his glory = yes Jesus

God comes to confirm his presence to us

God will do this in ways we can understand

\*Danger = we want to stay here = build booths in glory

\*Can't stay with the feeling

\*Holy Spirit brings us down the mountain

III.

### **Suffering and Glory**

Mark 9:9 He ordered them to tell no one . . . until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead

Next week: Head to Mt Calvary

Life with Jesus is life between two mountains:

Glory of Transfiguration

Suffering of Calvary

\*Song I sung Wed night: *The Man in the Middle*

Notice Mark's mountains:

Transfiguration

2 prophets

garments white

3 disciples

Voice "Son of God"

Elijah

Calvary

2 thieves

garments sold

3 women

Centurion "Son of God"

Elijah

\*Mark (Peter's preaching) wants you to connect these two

READ 2Peter 1:16-18

Not a myth

A real person on both mountains  
God is present in Jesus

\*We live in the valley between two mountains  
Gospel isn't one or the other  
Gospel is both = glory and suffering, suffering and glory  
You will have both in your life  
This is where we find Jesus