

It is my strong and deep conviction that God calls those who are called by His name to come to the mountain. Moses spent forty years in a palace and forty years in the pasture and then God called him to the mountain. On the mountain He teaches the otherwise unteachable. He brings about a state of understanding that cannot be fathomed any other place. It is a place where “perfect love casteth out fear.” It is a place where faith becomes the standard for reality. It is also a place where God allows you to view your life against the backdrop of God’s potential. It is the place where half-hearted, happy-go-lucky people give God enough to keep Him satisfied. This kind of Christianity ends there rather than possessing the Christianity that serves God in sincerity and truth forever. It is a place where you think that you’re going to lose everything, but discover a whole new wealth that causes everything to wilt in its presence.

The struggle of the climb is exhausting, the quest of the mountain is consuming, but the joy of the mountain is fulfilling. God brings us to the mountain to check our motives, clarify our priorities, and to confirm our spiritual resolve. My request is that you will take the quest of the mountain seriously and yield yourself to the development of its purpose.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hampton Drum

The Mount of Sacrifice! **Sermon #1**

Genesis 22:1-19

“In the Bible, going to the mountain has always been associated with getting close to God. Each time the great men of old took something away from the experience that was unforgettable.”
Hampton Drum

Mark 4:19 *And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.*

You must understand that Abraham’s greatest test came right after God’s greatest blessing in his life.

I. The call to the mountain.

“All people have three parts to their personality: intellect, emotions, and will. Each was included in this test as God sought to refine Abraham to a purer faith.” *David Jeremiah*

A. It is a call to surrender to God’s will.

Genesis 22:2 *And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.*

What could be an Isaac that God is asking you to sacrifice?

- * Is it something that slowly begins to eclipse God from your life?

- * Is it something that causes you to grow independent of Him?

- * Is it something that takes Him out of the driver’s seat and puts Him into the back seat of your life?

- * Is it something that replaces God as being the central thing that brings excitement, enthusiasm, and intrigue into your life?

* Is it something that causes your affections for God to cool and your love for Him becomes distant?

* Is it something that quenches your thirst for righteousness with carnal fillers?

B. It is a call to sacrifice to God in worship.

Genesis 22:4-6 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. (V.5) And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you, (V.6) And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

II. The conversation on the mountain.

A. There were the words that were exchanged by faith.

Genesis 22:7-8 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? (V.8) And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

Hebrews 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

B. There were the works that were exercised by faith.

Genesis 22:9-10 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. (V.10) And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

III. The confirmation of the mountain.

A. God confirmed who he had become on the mountain.

Genesis 22:11-14*And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. (V.12) And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. (V.13) And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. (V.14) And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. (Abraham passed the priority test.)*

What does God desire from the mountain of sacrifice?

- * To know that He is the first priority in your life.
- * To know that you're willing to sacrifice anything to renew your fellowship with Him.
- * To know that you consider His will to be the most fulfilling purpose for your life.
- * To know that you consider your dependence on Him to be the greatest necessity for life.
- * To know that you reserve for Him alone an intimate, personal oneness that you refuse to compromise for any reason.

B. God confirmed who he would be on the mountain.

“God does not want a place in your life. God does not want prominence in your life. God desires, God deserves, God demands preeminence in your life.” **Adrian Rogers**

Genesis 22:15-17*And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, (V.16) And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: (V.17) That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven,*

Luke 18:22-23*Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. (V.23) And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.*

The Mount of Surrender! Sermon #2

Exodus 3:1-22

What would Moses need to surrender?

- He would have to surrender his inhibitions:

Exodus 4:10*And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.*

- He would have to surrender his co-dependency:

Exodus 4:14*And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother?*

- He would have to surrender his past:

Exodus 4:1*And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice;*

- He would have to surrender his impulsiveness:

Exodus 2:12*And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.*

Why would Moses have to spend forty years following sheep around in the desert? He would need to know all of the watering holes, dangers, snake dens, and food supply. God was teaching him the path that he should lead His people.

I. The sight that draws us to the mountain.

A. The unexplainable often draws us to the mountain.

Exodus 3:2-3*And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. (V.3) And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.*

Jonah 2:1-2*Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, (V.2) And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.*

B. The unchanging One draws us to the mountain.

Exodus 3:4-5*And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. (V.5) And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.*

What happens in a time of surrender before God?

- * God calls to the deepest part of your life in order to make the greatest impact on your life.
- * God requests that you begin to view your inabilities, your inhibitions, and your infirmities as stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks.
- * God requests that you open your life to His scrutiny and permit Him to make any changes that He would deem necessary.
- * God requests that you push yourself beyond your own comfort level and by faith begin to test His resources.
- * God requests that you would carry from the mountain such a presence of His glory that others would surrender as you have.
- * God requests your surrender, not on the basis of your defeat, but upon the basis of His victory.
- * God requests your surrender because you cannot do it without Him and He will not do it without you.
- * Your lack of surrender is the only thing that stands between you and the ability to change your disabilities into possibilities.
- * God requests your surrender because what you will receive will far outweigh what you will give.
- * God requests your surrender because what God has planned for you is nobility instead of instability, monumental instead of incidental.

II. The subject to be discussed on the mountain.

A. The human concern that was discussed on the mountain.

Exodus 3:7-8 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; (V.8) And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians,
(God hears the cry of His people.)

Genesis 18:20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

James 5:4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

B. The heavenly cure that was discussed on the mountain.

Exodus 3:10-11 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. (V.11) And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?
(Don't ever ask God for the answer unless you are willing to be a part of the answer.)

III. The submission to a direction on the mountain.

Exodus 3:12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

A. We must understand who we are submitting to.

Exodus 3:13-15*And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? (V.14) And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. (V.15) And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.*

John 6:48*I am that bread of life.*

John 9:5*I am the light of the world.*

John 10:11*I am the good shepherd:*

“The Lord’s plan was to deliver His children from bondage so they could worship Him and be established as His chosen people.” *David Jeremiah*

“Christ wants to free us so that we might worship Him.” *Dr. Hampton Drum*

B. We must understand what we are submitting to.

Exodus 3:17-18*And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. (V.18) And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.*

The Mount of Struggle! Sermon #3

I Kings 18:17-46

“There were dark days in Israel, days of apostasy, days of apathy and horrible sin. The people had forgotten God.”

Adrian Rogers

“The struggle on this mountain was between Elijah, who loved God and desired to obey Him, and the people of God who had turned from Him.” *Dr. Hampton Drum*

Why is it a struggle?

- Because those Christians who live sinful lives bring a reproach on the name of Christianity. Everything you try to do to uphold Christ’s testimony, they are in essence trying to tear it down.
- Because it causes you to doubt their salvation and it makes you worry that they are going to hell.
- Because it gives a deceptive example. They’re saying follow me and you will walk a successful Christian life. That is far from the truth.
- Because it is discouraging to you personally.

James 5:17 *Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.*

I. The challenge on the mount of struggle.

A. There is the challenge between God and public opinion.

1 Kings 18:17-18 *And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? (V.18) And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.*

B. There is the challenge between God and proving omnipotence.

1 Kings 18:21*And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*

II. The conquest on the mount of struggle.

1 King 18:22*Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.*

“He felt like he was standing alone on that mountain. Do you ever feel alone on the mountain of adversity? It is always more difficult when you feel alone.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

A. The battle in prayer as we look to God.

1 Kings 18:30*And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.*

1 Kings 18:32-33*And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. (V.33) And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.*

(NOTICE: The preparation he did before he prayed!)

1 Kings 18:36-37 *And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. (V.37) Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.*

James 5:16*Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

B. The battle in practice as we labor before God.

1 Kings 18:38*Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.*

III. The conqueror on the mount of struggle.

What's different in God's economy?

1. The commodities that are exchanged are much different in this economy.
2. The value of things begins to take on new meaning. Things once thought meaningless now become most valued.
3. Things once prized now seem empty and worthless.
4. Everything begins to be seen in front of the backdrop of the reality of death and eternity.
5. Conserving resources, planning strategically, and anticipating the enemy's next move becomes paramount.

A. God was proven to be authentic.

1 Kings 18:39*And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.*

“The people thought it was a battle of public opinion, preference, or emotion, but Elijah showed them it was the battle of a Living God and a stone image.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

In Daniel's day:

Daniel 6:26*I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.*

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego:

Daniel 3:28 *Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.*

B. Their god was proven to be anemic.

1 Kings 18:40 *And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.*

[Have you ever noticed who does the bleeding when you try to serve other gods?]

1 Kings 18:41 *And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.*

1 King 19:14 *And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

The Mount of Seduction!
Sermon #4

Luke 4:1-14

“You will notice that everything that Jesus does comes from the strength He has drawn from God. God is not acting for Him, but He is allowing God to act through Him.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

“Football: buckets of sweat, cups of blood, bruises from head to toe, why don’t they just play when the other team isn’t there?”

Dr. Hampton Drum

Deuteronomy 8:3*And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

“The three temptations match the sequence of temptations experienced by Israel in the wilderness, the provision of manna. (Exodus 16), the test at Massah (Exodus 17), and the worship of the golden calf (Exodus 32). Where Israel failed, Jesus succeeded. This scene also reveals Jesus as both human and divine.”

David Jeremiah

I. The weapons that He carried to the mount of seduction.

A. He took to the mount the knowledge of God’s word.

Luke 2:46-47*And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. (V.47) And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.*

Luke 4:4 . . . *It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.*

Luke 4:8 . . . *Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.*

Luke 4:12 . . . *It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.*

B. He took to the mount the knowledge of God’s will.

“He knew that God’s will included a cross before He received a crown.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

John 4:34*Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*

Matthew 7:21*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*

II. The warrior He confronted on the mount of seduction.

A. This warrior struck at His weakest hour.

Luke 4:2*Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.*

Genesis 25:30-31*And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. (V.31) And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.*

B. This warrior struck at the weakness of His humanity.

Luke 4:3 *And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.*

III. The war He conquered on the mount of seduction.

“What Jesus would do under the fire of the cross was settled right there on the mount of seduction.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

A. He conquered the war against His own flesh.

Luke 4:4*And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.*

(Jesus was fighting two enemies: His flesh and the Devil.)

Galatians 5:17*For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

(The reason that the battle is always hard is because the devil casts you against your own self!)

B. He conquered the war against His foe.

Luke 4:13*And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.*

James 4:7 *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

The Program Of Satan!		Our Attitude Toward Him!	
Counterfeits	2 Cor. 11:14-15	Never Underestimate Him	Jude 1:8-9
Slanderers	Gen. 3:4-5	Never Overestimate Him	Job 1:21
Attempts to Destroy the Work of Jesus	I John 3:8	Be On Guard For His Attack	1 Peter 5:8
Deceives	Rev. 20:3	Do Not Invite His Attack	Eph. 4:27
Blinds Minds	2 Cor.4:4	Be Aware Of His Tactics	2 Cor. 2:11
Accuses	Rev. 12:10	Remember: He's A Liar	John 8:44
Hinders	1 Thess.2:18	Remember: He's A Murderer	John 8:44
Sows Tares	Matt. 13:38-39		
Incites Persecution	Rev. 2:10		
Tempts To Sin	Acts 5:3		

The Mount of Success!
Sermon #5

Genesis 6:5-8

What do you do with spiritual success?

- There are the wrong things you can do with success: brag, say “I told you so”, look down on the unsuccessful and say “I’m going to sit down and rest”.
- There are the right things to do with success.
 - How can I use my success as a platform to reach people for Christ?
 - How can I use my success to leverage my life in obedience to Christ?
 - What promise can I receive from God that can be passed on to the next generation?
 - How can I mentor the next generation to face the challenges of life?

Genesis 6:8-9*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. (V.9) These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.*

I. The faithfulness of Noah to God.

A. Noah retained his righteousness in a world of corruption.

Genesis 6:5*And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Genesis 6:8*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Romans 3:12-18*They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. (V.13) Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: (V.14) Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: (V.15) Their feet are swift to shed blood: (V.16) Destruction and misery are in their ways: (V.17) And the way of peace have they not known: (V.18) There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

B. Noah retained his reverence in a world of compromise.

Genesis 6:9*These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.*

II. The faith of Noah in God.

A. He had the faith to take God at His word.

Genesis 6:13 *And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.*

“How great was Noah’s faith? He believed in rain that had never fallen and a boat that had never been built.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

Hebrews 11:7 *By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*

B. He had the faith to do God’s work.

Genesis 6:14 *Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.*

Genesis 6:22*Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.*

2 Peter 2:5 *And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

“There is a theme throughout the Bible of the use of an ark. The ark becomes a sign of deliverance. Moses and an Ark of bulrushes, Israel and the Ark of the Covenant.”

Dr. Hampton Drum

III. The favor of Noah before God.

1 Peter 3:20*Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.*

A. He received the favor to escape a perverted world.

“When Noah obeyed, God shut the door-keeping the flood out, and Noah in, where it was totally safe. We can always trust God, hold onto Him, and be confident He’s holding onto you.”
Adrian Rogers

Genesis 7:16-17*And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in. (V.17) And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.*

“The same water that drowned his enemy bore him up to safety.”*Dr. Hampton Drum*

B. He received the favor to experience a pleasurable world.

What is so sweet about the “Mount of Success”?

- * The victory was personal, only Noah new the depth of such a victory.
- * He walked into the ark in the minority, but came out in the majority.
- * He walked into the ark looking foolish, but he came out famous.
- * He walked into the ark looking like a lunatic, but he came out a legend.
- * He walked into the ark looking like a joke, but came out with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

“Can you imagine having the opportunity to make your world all that you wish it to be? Only God can do that for you.” *Dr. Hampton Drum*

Genesis 8:15-17 And God spake unto Noah, saying, (V.16) Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. (V.17) Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

“He walked into the ark facing the greatest problem the world had ever known, but came out to receive the greatest promise the world would ever receive.” *Dr. Hampton Drum*

Genesis 9:13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

**The Mount of Splendor
Sermon #6**

Mark 9:1-10

Jeremiah 29:13*And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

I. The heavenly vision on the mount of splendor

A. The trio that accompanied Christ on the mountain.

Mark 9:2*And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.*

Peter:

Acts 2:38*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

Acts 2:41*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

James:

Acts 12:2*And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.*
(James would be the first disciple to be martyred.)

John:

John 1:14 *And the Word was made 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.*

B. The transformation of Christ on the mountain.

Mark 9:3*And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.*

The disciples had witnessed Jesus in His human form but they would now experience Him in His heavenly beauty.

- Tied to the human body, Jesus was bound to its limitations. It would have been easy for His disciples to see Him through those restrictions.
- It would be easy to forget the true wonder of His glory.
- The purity of His righteousness could have been diminished in comparison to His surroundings.
- His humility might have caused them to see Him for less than who He was.
- Familiarity breeds contempt. Just because they could have a casual conversation with Him didn't mean they deserved that opportunity.

“As the disciples observed, Jesus was ‘transfigured before Him’. The term used here is the basis of our word ‘metamorphosis,’ which is a change on the outside that comes from the inside.”

Jerry Vines

II. The heavenly visitors on the mount of splendor

A. The significance of the visitor's presence.

Mark 9:4*And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.*

Moses: He represents the law, delivers from Egypt, and dies in God's embrace.

Elijah: He represents the prophets, performs many miracles, preserves the worship of God, and goes to heaven in a fiery chariot.

Luke 9:30-31*And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: (V.31) Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.*

B. The sensation that the visitors provoked.

Mark 9:5-6*And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. (V.6) For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.*

Luke 9:32*But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.*

[Peter woke up and saw something not knowing what to say!]

Peter misunderstood the purpose of the visitors.

- He put the visitors on the same level of honor that he put Christ.
- God showed Peter the celestial but he was still tied to the secular.
- Peter became so accustomed to what he knew about Jesus as a human that he couldn't comprehend Jesus in His true essence.

2 Peter 1:16*For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.*

III. The heavenly voice on the mount of splendor

A. The source of the voice that spoke from heaven

Mark 9:7*And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, (When God speaks, powerful things happen. People begin to take off their shoes and fall on their faces.)*

“What God says to me is more important than what I say to Him.” *Adrian Rogers*

B. The subject of the voice that spoke from heaven.

Mark 9:7-8. . . *This is my beloved Son: hear him. (V.8) And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves.*