

Series: Surprising God

Listen to Him

Sunday May 27, 2018

1. *About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)*

While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen (Luke 9:28-36).

2. *...some who are standing here will not taste death **before** they see the kingdom of God...* (Lk. 9:27)

3. Moses and Elijah are *representative* figures of the OT. Moses is the great OT deliverer and lawgiver. Elijah is the representative of the prophets.

4. The law and the prophets aimed at the same thing: to form a worshipping and just people after God.

5. *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them"* (Mt. 5:17).

6. It's a spiritual object lesson: the Law and the Prophets point to Jesus as the deliverer and the One who would establish the kingdom of God for those who would acknowledge their deliverance from the old man of Adam to the new man in Christ.

7. "Jesus *is* what God has to say." *Brian Zahnd*

8. "The Law + the Prophets gave Israel a way forward in a very dark, pagan, Gentile world. Moses and the Torah are like the full moon shining in the night. A full moon might give just enough light that you might grope your way forward. The Prophets are like the starry constellations in the night sky – which – if you can read the constellations accurately – you can navigate by the stars."

"And so in a pre-Christ world of stygian darkness – the Law and the Prophets are the moon and the stars by which Israel can navigate forward. But with the coming of Christ – when the Word of God became flesh – when God said more than He could say in a book - this changed everything. Just as when the sun rises – and the moon and stars recede. The dawn had come!" *Brian Zahnd*

9. *In him was life, and that life was the light of men... He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him... Yet to all who received him, to all who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God... We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth... For the law was given through Moses; (but) grace and truth came through Jesus Christ (Jn. 1: 14, 4, 10, 12, 17).*

10. *You (speaking to the Pharisees) diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These re the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life (Jn. 5: 39-40).*

11. This is why we'd say that Jesus is the final word on the Word of God.

12. This is why we'd say that we shouldn't read the bible as if it were a "flat text."

13. This is why we'd say that Jesus is the lens through which we should read all of the bible.

14. Here's why this is so important:

A. Because we are Christians – not Biblians.

B. Because we can justify doing a lot of things that aren't Christ-like but are in the bible.

15. For example

- John 8:3-12
- Luke 9:51-55