



Sermon Overview

In chapter 8, we saw that the very minute Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah (8:29), Jesus immediately began to teach, “Yes, but I am the Messiah who has come to be murdered.” Peter rebukes him (8:31-32), so it is clear that only relentless teaching on Jesus’ part is going to make any “dent” in the prejudices of the disciples. Now we are in the second half of Mark, and the contrast with the first half is already evident. Jesus now constantly speaks of his death and suffering, and he does it in ways that the disciples find extremely hard to swallow. This passage begins to answer the questions about the nature of Christ’s life and the reasons that the Messiah has to die.

Jesus was transfigured “before them” (verse 2) meaning that the “Transfiguration” was for his disciples’ benefit, designed to teach them about his person and work. Therefore, we have to ask “what does the *transfiguration* teach us?”

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Starting with God

1. Reread verses 2-8. What does the supernatural brightness of Jesus (vv. 3-4) and the decent of the cloud (v. 7) tell us about Jesus’ person and work? (Remember the cloud and the bright light from Exodus 19.)

2. Look at versus 4-12. What does the presence of Moses and Elijah and the voice from the cloud tell us about Jesus’ person and work?

