



Last Saturday, August 6, we celebrated the feast of the **Transfiguration**. In Jesus' ministry there came a time when He makes it clear to his apostles that he would have to **suffer** and **die**. However, this does not correspond to their **expectation** of the **Messiah**. So, **God shows up to remove any doubt**. To reinforce the staggering faith of those apostles Jesus took Peter, James, and John, up on a mountain, where Moses and Elijah appeared and Jesus was **transfigured**, his face and clothes becoming **dazzlingly bright**. They see Jesus **transformed** into his **divine glory**, and they hear the Father thunder from heaven, **“This is my beloved Son, listen to him!”**

In the Transfiguration event, God gives the apostles “something to hold onto.” He knows that they need something. He knows that they are in struggle, so he pushes back the veil of heaven and provides them with a glimpse of his **glory** and a reminder of his **eternal purposes**. The Transfiguration demonstrates that Jesus' **suffering** is **not** incompatible with his **glory**.

There are several truths we can learn from the Transfiguration event in the life of Jesus and his disciples.

1. **As we follow Jesus, he will prepare us to face the next situation in our lives. He is the great I AM who is for us and will be with us.**

In the same way that he was preparing the disciples for what was going to happen in their lives, even though they were **not** able to fully grasp it, Jesus is constantly preparing us for what is in the days before us. He **will** give us “something to hold onto” as well.

2. **As we follow Jesus into our unknown future, it would benefit us to also “listen to him.” His words are for us.**

The disciples had preconceived notions of how their future, and that of Jesus, was to unfold, but they needed to place their hopes and expectations in Jesus. We must also put aside our **preconceived** notions and put our hope in Jesus. We need to listen to him.

3. **Life is bigger than what our eyes can see.**

The disciples were no doubt going through the busyness of life and forgetting that God was at work in the world accomplishing his purposes. They could easily live AS IF GOD IS NOT. So, God steps in and gives them a big reminder that there is more going on than meets the eye.

We can be living AS IF GOD IS NOT. Despite what events happen in this world, Jesus is still in his glory. Let's live AS IF GOD IS. Let's live in light of the bigger story.

4. **This glimpse of Jesus in the transfiguration reminds us that this world is not our final home.**

In the same way that eternal God's glory breaks into the kingdom of this world and Jesus is transfigured for just a moment, one day the kingdom of this world will become the kingdom of our Lord. But not yet.