

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



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Mark 9:1-13

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1 And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

2 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, **3** and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. **4** And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. **5** And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” **6** For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. **7** And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” **8** And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

9 And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. **10** So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead might mean. **11** And they asked him, “Why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?” **12** And he said to them, “Elijah does come first to restore all things. And how is it written of the Son of Man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt? **13** But I tell you

that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him.”

What does the *setting* reveal?

- “**2** And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them” (Mark 9:2).
- What is the setting?
 - The Mountain
 - Man goes up to the mountain
 - “15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights” (Exodus 24:15-18).
 - God comes down to the mountain
 - “Jesus, therefore, is not only the new Moses but the object of what Moses saw on the Mountain—Yahweh himself” (Patrick Schreiner, *The Transfiguration of Christ*, 36).
 - The setting reveals Jesus is both the Son of God and the Christ.

What do the *signs* reveal?

- “And he was transfigured before them, **3** and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. **4** And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus **5** And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” **6** For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. **7** And a cloud overshadowed them,” (Mark 9:2b-7a).
- What are the signs?
 - Jesus
 - “thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire” (Daniel 7:9).
 - Jesus receives glory from the Father
 - “16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,’ 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain” (2 Peter 1:16-18).
 - Jesus is the Glory of God
 - “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).

- Glory=Presence of God
- Elijah and Moses
 - Elijah and Moses point to Jesus' messianic mission.
 - Moses = Law
 - Elijah = Prophets
 - Jesus fulfilled the Law & Prophets
- The Cloud
 - The Son of Man comes with the clouds
 - “and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him” (Daniel 7:13).
 - God is revealed by the clouds.
- The signs reveal Jesus is both the Son of God and the Christ.

What do the sayings reveal?

- “**5** And Peter said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ **6** For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. **7** And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, ‘This is my beloved Son; listen to him’” (Mark 9:7b).
- What are the sayings?
 - Peter’s Saying
 - Peter misunderstands Jesus’ messianic mission.
 - “Peter’s fearful response is not mere ignorance but demonstrates a lack of understanding of the revelation of Jesus in his glory. . . . His suggestion is an attempt to sidestep or resist what Jesus had already made clear—that glory only comes after rejection, suffering, and death” (Timothy Gombis, *Mark*, 307).
 - The Father’s Saying
 - The Father confirms Jesus’ eternal sonship.
 - “I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father” (Nicene Creed).
- The sayings reveal Jesus is both the Son of God and the Christ.

Jesus is both the eternally begotten Son of God and the incarnate Messianic Son who will suffer.