

May 6, 2007

**No One But Jesus**  
**Mark 9:2-13**

Sometimes **we** need to be recalibrated – we get caught up in the minutia of life to the extent that we lose sight of our sense of purpose.

Jesus' death is immanent – He has begun to communicate to His friends that He is not going to be around for long – that His mission wasn't to conquer Rome but to Renew all things by giving His life.

**Glory** – In the Hebrew, the word, 'glory' means 'heaviness.' It refers to the 'weight' someone carries by their reputation. It is what you feel when you are in the presence of someone famous. They kind of fill the room.

So whenever God was 'in the house,' so to speak, in OT times – everyone knew – it was something felt or sensed in a powerful way. His Glory was manifested to the people of Israel in particular ways – but not fully – because no one could see His full Glory and live.

But when the Cloud would appear the Israelites immediately knew where to look and what to do. They didn't have to figure it out [Go with this].

What God's Glory did was that it kept His people focused on who He was and what their lives were all about. This was the way God kept His people calibrated – so they wouldn't freak out over the moment, or over the immediate – and so they wouldn't get lost in

themselves, or overwhelmed with their enemies and challenges or failures.

All this to say that our only hope for truly and peacefully surviving our challenges and struggles is to look at them with a big view of God in mind.

So what happens here is that while Jesus is filled with this Glory two people appear with Him, and in fact they begin to converse – Moses and Elijah begin to interact with Jesus. Moses represents the Law – the thing that defines our inability to make it with God. Elijah represents the Prophets – that group of men who remind us that we are not left alone on this planet to fend for ourselves – that there is a God who is greater than everything that is.

What does Peter do? The same thing we might be tempted to do – he attempts to stuff Jesus into a box – he gets all ‘religious’ on Jesus. He doesn’t know what is happening so he takes this as a signal to come out with an answer – a formula to help him cope with the unknown and to package the phenomena.

The point of the encounter is that Jesus is the fulfillment of all they longed for. The Law is fulfilled in Jesus who paid the penalty on our behalf because of our inability to keep it. The Prophets lamented for the Promised One who would restore peace to a world broken by sin – they longed for Jesus.

Maybe you have been busy looking at the road system rather than the destination.

Perhaps you have been guilty of attempting to put God into a box.

I can tell you that when we do this...

– We relegate Him to ordinary means.

- We settle for ordinary hopes/dreams
- We assume that things... be... been.

And if this is you...

- You serve a little god
- You serve a tame god
- You serve a manageable god

But you don't serve Jesus. Out of fear you refuse to trust Him with the right to rule and lead and move in your heart for fear that He will take you somewhere you didn't intend on going – and He will.

**John 1:14**

'The Word became flesh' – This unknowable God made Himself something/someone we could lay our eyes on.

'made his dwelling among us' – 'Tent' 'Tabernacle'

'We beheld his glory' – AND WE LIVED!!!

Why? **You** – **Philippians 2:5-11**

The Gospel: Jesus temporarily surrendered His Glory to come that we could see it and live.

The Prayers: 'Lord, show me your Glory,' and 'Lord, be glorified in me.' – **Romans 12:2**

This can only lead to good things. When we stop attempting to stuff God into a box He begins to show us just how big He is.