

And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.

Matthew 17:8

Jesus Alone



THEY HAD JUST WITNESSED an amazing light show, a brief glimpse of their Master's supernatural reality. They had seen the great transcriber and father of the Law, and the prophet so distinguished by God that he had not suffered death—both having left the soil of earth long centuries past. They had heard the thundering voice of very God and had cowered in holy fear.

And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. . . . a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified.

Matthew 17:2-3, 4b-6

The three Jewish fishermen had been raised on a fear of Jehovah, and a deep, abiding reverence for the Law and the prophets—and foremost in their upbringing were Moses and Elijah. Moses and the Law typified for Israel the coming Great High Priest and Lamb—

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For

this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Hebrews 10:1 nv

—and the prophet Elijah typified the one who prepared the way for the true Christ.

And His disciples asked Him, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" And He answered and said, "Elijah is coming and will restore all things; but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist.

Matthew 17:10-13



We are so easily dissuaded from the one and only hope for this life. Whether it be to an old and comfortable master, something bright and clever and new, or a hapless stroll down a rabbit trail, our natural bent is away from the one thing with which we cannot do without.

And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.

Matthew 17:8

It goes without saying that the lost must look to Jesus for their ultimate salvation. But the redeemed, as well, must stop looking at others, stop being distracted by temporal baubles, stop looking elsewhere for something they think might be better and focus their attention on "no one except Jesus Himself alone."

History reveals facts; the Law is worth every one of its words; and prophecies illumine truth. But only Jesus saves.

Turn your eyes
upon Jesus,
Look full in His
wonderful face,
And the things
of earth will grow
strangely dim,
In the light of His
glory and grace.

Helen H. Lemmel

