

Devotion for Epiphany 6 Transfiguration

Psalm 50:1-15

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before Him, and around Him a tempest rages.

He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that He may judge His people.

“Gather to me my consecrated ones, who made covenant with me by sacrifice.”

And the heavens proclaim His righteousness for God Himself is judge. Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel and I will testify against you: I am God, your God.

I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, which are ever before me. I have no need of a bull from your stall or of a goat from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine and all that is in it.

Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you will honor me.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen*

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

The Ministry of the New Covenant

How do believers show they are a letter from Christ?

What was the significance of Moses' face reflecting God's glory?

How does Jesus and the gospel shine a greater glory?

Mark 9:1-13

Jesus shines the glory of God

1)How did the disciples see the kingdom of God?

2)What was the significance of Moses and Elijah with Jesus on the mount?

3)Why did Jesus tell the disciples to keep what they had seen a secret until after His resurrection?

Listen to Him!

God made Himself known to Israel through the words He spoke faithfully and persistently by the prophets who came before Jesus. The prophetic ministry is affirmed in the introduction to the letter to the Hebrews where it says, “*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers through the prophets.*” The prophets spoke God's word and called people to faith and faithfulness to His word! The ministry of the prophets extended through many centuries and included men and women, who spoke God's word and sometimes depicted it through their actions.

Jeremiah wore an iron yoke to announce the captivity of the people of Judah and Jerusalem and to call them to submit to God's will. Ezekiel lay on his side in front of a replica of Jerusalem, to enact the siege of the city. Isaiah walked around shoeless and bare naked to illustrate the long, humiliating journey the people would make when the Babylonians led them into captivity. All the prophets warned the people of the dangers of sin and called the people to repent and return to the Lord for mercy, healing and forgiveness. The prophets prepared the people for the coming of Jesus saying in the words of Joel, “*Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding steadfast love.*”

The author of Hebrews concludes his words about the prophets saying, “*but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son.*” God affirmed the person of Jesus, His divinity and anointing as the Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration saying, “*This is my beloved Son; Listen to Him!*” We listen to Jesus. He is the fullest expression of God's Holy Word. He has the words of eternal life! He is the physical embodiment of God's Word. He is the Word made flesh who makes His dwelling among us. He dwells within us through the Spirit He has given to us in baptism. Jesus calls us, “*Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.*” We listen to Him for He is our peace.

“TIS GOOD, LORD, TO BE HERE” (Public Domain)

**Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.**

**Tis good, Lord, to be here. Thy beauty to behold.
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be.
We hail thy body glorified and our redemption see.**

**Before we taste of death, we see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home.**

**Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.**

Prayer

Dearest Lord Jesus in your transfiguration we see your glory as the only begotten Son of God from eternity. Moses and Elijah stand by your side to show that all the words of the Law and Prophets foretold your coming and testified to your work on the cross for our salvation. Although we see dimly as through darkened glass, bless us to walk with you each day in faith. Preserve us by your Spirit through the word and bring us to that day when we will see your glory in the presence of the Father and the Spirit, in our share of your resurrection. In your name. Amen

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Benediction 2 Peter 3:13

“But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”

Bible Knowledge Quiz

Who was King David’s first wife’s father?

Who was King Solomon’s mother?

Which son succeeded Solomon as king of Israel?

Answers to last week’s quiz

His hair. (2 Samuel 14:25-26)

She cut off his hair. (Judges 16:19)

Her hair. (1 Corinthians 11:15)