

COMMENTARY

MATTHEW 17:

vs. 1-13:

Six days after speaking to His disciples about upcoming events, Jesus took 3 of His disciples (Peter, James and John) upto a mountain. There His appearance was changed and He became radiant, and glorious, even as He appeared in Heaven before being born to Mary. Moses and Elijah (representing the Law and the Prophets) came and spoke to Jesus about what would transpire in Jerusalem (see Luke 9:31). They spoke concerning Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension; in essence, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets!

Peter offered to set up shelters so that the 3 could continue to talk. Peter was trying to prolong the event, but such was not to be the case.

God testified through the appearing of the cloud, His voice and ten Jesus being the only one there; that Jesus was the source of authority and way to God; no longer was it to be the Law and the Prophets. Jesus then informed His disciples to keep this to themselves until after His resurrection.

The disciples knew that one was to come before the Messiah, and they questioned Jesus about it. He simply replied that John the Baptist was the forerunner and that He (Jesus) would die at the hands of the religious leaders, just as John had.

vs. 14-23:

As Jesus rejoined the crowd, a man asked Him to heal his son. Jesus cast out the demon that was controlling the boy, and the child was well again.

The disciples could not understand why they could not cast it out. Jesus' reply was that they lacked faith. He further instructed that great things, that we fail to comprehend, can be accomplished, if only we would have faith!

Jesus went on to tell them, after they had reached Galilee, about the abuse and how He would die. He also informed them about His resurrection, but they failed to appreciate that aspect, and were thus filled with grief.

vs. 24-27:

When in Capernaum, the men came to Peter to collect the temple tax (equivalent to 2 days wages). Jesus spoke to Peter concerning the legitimacy of such a tax, implying that they should be free from such a tax, as they are God's Children. Jesus, so as not to offend the collectors, told Peter to go fishing and the first fish he caught would have enough money in its mouth, to pay both Jesus' and Peter's tax.

STUDY GUIDE

MATTHEW 17:

1. What happened to Jesus before Peter, James and John?
2. Who appeared with Jesus, talking to Him?
3. What did the voice from heaven say?
4. When were they allowed to tell what they had seen?
5. Who did the teachers of the law say, must come first?
6. Who is going to suffer at their hands, just as "Elijah" did?
7. Who did the disciples understand Jesus to be talking about?
8. What was wrong with the mans son?
9. What did Jesus do to heal the boy?
10. What could they do, if they had the faith, the size of a mustard seed?
11. What would men, do to the Son of Man?
12. How did Jesus get the money for Peter and His, temple tax?

BONUS:

1. What was the importance of the Transfiguration?
2. Can demons be cast out today? Explain.
3. What could be accomplished if YOU had more faith?

