

The Transfiguration of Our Lord – 2022

Saturday, 2/26 at 4:00 | Sunday, 2/27 at 9:00



Text: Luke 9:28-36 NAS 1995

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: Some things in life can seem to be moving in a *particular unstoppable direction*, BUT THEN, a **game changer!** For example, ➔ after having had cancer, **your doctor declares you to be cancer-free** OR ➔ **Jesus**, having been entombed, **is now alive forevermore!** Today, as we conclude the season of Epiphany, we come to what SHOULD be a **GAME CHANGER** for EVERYONE!

1. **Setting:** <sup>28</sup> And some eight days after these sayings, it came about that He took along Peter and John and James, and went up to the mountain to pray. // What sayings? About a week earlier, Jesus said He would ➔ suffer, ➔ be rejected, and ➔ be killed, and then ➔ be raised on the third day. *Since those sayings seem impossible*, Luke is calling us to make a connection between ➔ what Jesus said and ➔ what happened on the mountain!
2. **Changes:** <sup>29</sup> And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming. // What does Luke mean by “different”?

Matthew wrote that Jesus' "face shone like the sun" (17:2). Prior to that moment, Jesus always looked like an ordinary man; then, in that moment, **Jesus showed His glory!** Decades later, Peter wrote, "...we were eyewitnesses of **His majesty** [His mighty power, greatness] (2 Pet. 1:16). For all who THINK Jesus is ONLY a unique man, ↗ may they know the truth and ↗ may that be a **game changer** for them!

3. **Visitors:** <sup>30</sup> And behold, two men were talking with [Jesus]; and they were Moses and Elijah, <sup>31</sup> who, appearing in glory [in their heavenly form], were speaking of His departure [that is, His death, resurrection, and ascension] which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. // Why Moses and Elijah?
  - a. Moses: He is the one through whom God gave the law (*Exodus chapter 20; John 1:17; etc.*), which we have broken, and **Jesus came to fulfill** (*Matthew 5:17*)!
  - b. Elijah: He represents the prophets, which include the many prophecies about Jesus' ↗ birth, ↗ life, ↗ death, ↗ resurrection, and ↗ ascension!
  - c. Encouragement: Moses and Elijah endured many difficult things; now, as Jesus was drawing closer to His suffering and death, Moses and Elijah encouraged Him – according to His human nature.
4. **Response:** <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions had been overcome with sleep; but when they were fully awake, they saw **[Jesus'] glory** and the two men standing with Him. <sup>33</sup> And it came about, as these were parting from Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, and

**one for Moses, and one for Elijah”-- not realizing what he was saying.**

- a. While they slept: ♣Jesus was **transfigured**, and ♣the two men appeared. Then, *when they woke up*, they saw the AMAZING SITE of ♦Jesus having been **RADICALLY CHANGED** and ♦Moses and Elijah in their heavenly form!
- b. And how did they know Moses and Elijah? Even though they were all on a mountain on earth, *God gave Peter, James, and John a glimpse of heaven!* So, what will heaven be like? The Bible says, “...now we see in a mirror dimly, but then [in heaven] face to face; now I know in part, but then [in heaven] I will know fully just as I also have been fully known” (1 Cor. 13:12).

5. **God:** <sup>34</sup> **And while he was saying this, a cloud formed and began to overshadow them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.** <sup>35</sup> **And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!”**  
// The cloud was supernatural; it ♦formed quickly, ♦blocked their vision, and ♦resulted in fear. Then God the Father identified Jesus – **My Son, the One I have chosen to buy back the world!** Then He told everyone how to respond to Jesus: **“listen to Him”** – that is, ➔**pay attention to Him, ➔obey Him!**

6. **Silence:** <sup>36</sup> **And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.**  
// Peter, James, and John were eyewitnesses, they ♦saw, ♦heard, and ♦remembered; then, *beginning on the Day of Pentecost*, they told EVERYTHING to EVERYONE!

7. **Has Jesus Changed Your Game?** If He has – *great!* If not yet – *be open to HUGE and IMPORTANT things!*
- a. Who He Is: God's only begotten Son, *the Second Person of the Trinity*, who put on human flesh!
  - b. What He Did: Lived, suffered, died, and rose to *conquer sin, death, and the devil and open the way to heaven!*
  - c. The benefits of Knowing Him: Forgiveness of all sins, peace in every circumstance, and assurance of heaven!
  - d. The consequences of Rejecting Him: Worry and fear in this life; *then eternal punishment in the life to come!*
8. **The Church Year Connection:**
- a. ☺During **Advent**, we anticipated Jesus' coming;  
☺during **Christmas**, we celebrated Jesus' birth; and  
☺during **Epiphany**, God made it clear to us that Jesus is His Son, the Promised Messiah.
  - b. This coming Wednesday – **Ash Wednesday**, we will begin the **Season of Lent**:
    - i. Recalling our sins and our need for repentance!
    - ii. Watching Jesus – *our God-Sent Champion* – †resist the devil's temptations and †demonstrate His power as He makes His way to the **ULTIMATE FIGHT on Good Friday!** Join us, benefit! ([BLC Lent Summary](#))

**Let Us Pray:** Dear Jesus, YOU are the ultimate GAME CHANGER! Help us to *always trust You and eternally benefit!*

**Website:** [www.BLC7500.com](http://www.BLC7500.com); **YouTube and Podcast:** Benefit from the Bible

**Facebook:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma; **Pastor:** [RevRLGreen@aol.com](mailto:RevRLGreen@aol.com)

7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134, 440-845-2230