

He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist. Matthew 17:11–13 (ESV)



## Mark 9:1-14 – The Transfiguration

September 29, 2019

### 4. Jesus strengthens our faith with something better than the transfiguration.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 2 Peter 1:16–18 (ESV)

And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:19–21 (ESV)

#### Life Group Questions

1. Read Mark 9:1-14 to familiarize yourself with the passage.
2. Why do some say Mark 9:1 proves you can-not trust the Bible? How would you answer them?
3. How was the Mount of Transfiguration both like and unlike Mount Sinai?
4. How does this passage prove we can trust the Bible? (See also 2 Peter 1:16-21)
5. In 2 Peter 1:16-21, Peter said the Word of God can build our faith in Christ more than the transfiguration ever could. What do these verses teach us about the Bible and how God uses it to build our faith? (1 Peter 1:23; John 17:17; Matthew 4:4; Hebrews 4:12; Romans 10:17; James 1:21-23).

### 1. Jesus promised to strengthen the faith of some.

And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power." Mark 9:1 (ESV)

For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. Mark 8:38 (ESV)

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 2 Peter 1:16–18 (ESV)

### 2. Jesus strengthened the faith of Peter, James, and John by the transfiguration.

#### A. Jesus revealed his glory and power in the transfiguration.

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. Mark 9:2–3 (ESV)

**The Mount of Transfiguration parallels Mount Sinai.**

**The transfiguration probably took place on Mt. Hermon.**

**On the mountain, Jesus revealed his glory.**

And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. Luke 9:29 (ESV)

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. Matthew 17:2 (ESV)

Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory... Luke 9:32 (ESV)

## **B. On the mountain, Jesus met Moses and Elijah.**

And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. Mark 9:4 (ESV)

And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Luke 9:30–31 (ESV)

And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory... Luke 9:30–31 (ESV)

Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Luke 9:32 (ESV)

And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Mark 9:5–6 (ESV)

And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. Luke 9:33 (ESV)

## **C. On the mountain, God the Father rebuked Peter.**

And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." Mark 9:7 (ESV)

He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Matthew 17:5 (ESV)

As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" Luke 9:34–35 (ESV)

When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. Matthew 17:6–8 (ESV)

## **D. Jesus told Peter, James, and John not to speak of the transfiguration until he rose from the dead.**

And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead might mean. Mark 9:9–10 (ESV)

## **3. Jesus strengthened the disciples faith by answering their tough Bible questions.**

And they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" And he said to them, "Elijah does come first to restore all things..." Mark 9:11–12 (ESV)

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. Malachi 4:5 (ESV)

And how is it written of the Son of Man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt? Mark 9:12 (ESV)

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:5–6 (ESV)

But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him. Mark 9:13 (ESV)