

THE WITNESS OF THE FATHER

MATTHEW 17: 1-8

Introduction:

The blessed meeting on the mountain of transfiguration was to encourage Jesus. The “hour” of his testing and death was drawing close. Before He faced the ordeal of the Cross, the Father arranged this meeting on the mountain. The Father allowed the Son to receive a taste of the glory that awaited Him on the other side of the Cross.

The appearance of Moses and Elijah had the same purpose. This too was a preview of things to come. On the other side of the Cross He would stand with the saints of the ages in the presence of the Father. They spoke words of encouragement to Him about the importance of His obedience to the will of the Father.

But Peter, James, and John were there to hear the witness of the Father. The transfiguration of the Son confirmed the witness that Peter had given earlier concerning the identity of the Son, but the witness of the Father charted the course they were to follow in the future. What an awesome moment for these three followers of Jesus! They would never forget what they heard out of the cloud! The Eternal Father spoke!

But what did the Father say? What was His witness? We need to hear what the Father said.

I. HE ACKNOWLEDGES THE SON.

1. Jesus of Nazareth is “My” Son.
2. Jesus of Nazareth is the One I love.

II. HE APPROVES THE SON.

1. He is pleased with the Person of the Son.
2. He is pleased with the Performance of the Son.

III. HE APPOINTS THE SON.

1. The Son speaks with the authority of the Father.
2. The Son gives the words of life.