

Preview of the Second Coming, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 16:27-17:13.

B. Jesus promises that he will return and the Old Testament prophesies it. (Acts 2)

C. Jesus was demonstrating his credibility as a prophet by predicting that some would not die until they saw him in his glory. He was referring to the Transfiguration.

II. Jesus brought Peter, James and John to see the Transfiguration.

A. He brought them to be witnesses, because they were close to the Savior and because they were trustworthy leaders. (Mark 5:37)

B. He did not bring others to avoid the chaos of having seen him in glory.

III. The disciples were sleeping because of sorrow. (Luke 22)

IV. The disciples were given great testimonies that Jesus was the king.

A. The transformation of the Son. (John 1:14, Matthew 5:31, Revelation 1)

B. The testimony of the saints.

1. Moses and Elijah were present as representatives of the giving and guardianship of the law. They affirm Jesus as the one that the Law and Prophets spoke of. (Luke 9:31)

2. Peter was rebuked because one cannot put Jesus in the same place as Moses and Elijah—he is superior.

C. The terror of the Father. (Exodus 13:21)

1. It is good to walk with God because he is merciful.

2. It is fearful to walk with God because he is there in holiness and judgment.

Application Questions:

1. Why was it important that Jesus brought James, Peter and John—and only them—to the Transfiguration?

2. What was the purpose of the Transfiguration?

3. How does the picture of Jesus undermine much of what our culture wants to do with Jesus today? Explain.
