

The Glory of Christ: From the Mountain to the Valley_Matthew 17

Main Idea: Jesus reveals His glory both in the extraordinary and the everyday, from the mountaintop to the valley.

Aim: To awaken our hearts to the reality of Christ's glory that we should trust Him, not only in the mountaintop moments, but also in the challenges of everyday life.

I. The Glory of Christ on the Mountaintop (Matthew 17:1–13)

- Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John where His true divine nature & glory revealed.
- Moses (Law) and Elijah (Prophets) affirm Jesus' mission of suffering and redemption.
- God declares, "*This is my Son... listen to Him!*"

Key Lessons:

- Unlike Moses, Jesus' glory is not borrowed, it's His own.
- Suffering is part of the Messiah's path & glory.
- Mountaintop moments are for preparation, not escape.
- God still says to us today, "*Listen to Him,*" respond in faith and obedience.

II. The Glory of Christ in the Valley (Matthew 17:14–23)

- Jesus heals a demon-tormented boy after His disciples fail.
- The issue: not the amount of faith, but placing faith in the right source - Jesus.
- Jesus predicts His suffering again; glory comes through the cross.

Key Lessons:

- Faith in Christ, even small, can move mountains.
- Self-reliance in ministry leads to failure; dependence on Jesus is key.
- The path of glory includes suffering; don't miss the promise of resurrection (Heb 12:2).

III. The Glory of Christ in Everyday Life (Matthew 17:24–27)

- Jesus teaches that He, as God's Son, is exempt from temple tax, but chooses to pay it to avoid offense.
- A quiet miracle: a coin in a fish's mouth, pays the tax.

Key Lessons:

- Jesus is Lord of the temple and over all.
- Jesus lays down His rights out of humility and love.
- God provides in the mundane. His glory also shines in small, quiet ways.

Conclusion:

Matthew 17 reminds us that Jesus is glorious, not only in the extraordinary moments, but also in the valleys and in everyday life. His glory is not something we chase after in isolated experiences; it's something we should **carry with us into the world**, trusting Him through **faith, hardship, and obedience**. Let the mountaintop moments inspire us, but let the valley and the ordinary be where our faith matures. Christ is with us in all of it.

Implication Questions:

1. Where is God calling you to trust Him today with mustard-seed faith?
2. How might Christ be revealing His glory in the ordinary parts of your life?
3. What "mountaintop" moment do you need to remember to sustain you in your current valley?