

## **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF SAMUEL**

It was my intentions of closing the series on the Life of Samuel until I realized in the previous lesson that Samuel's appearance from death was outside the realm of divination.

I realized that what Saul experienced was a crucial spiritual moment to "get right with God."

As a reversionistic believer, it was Saul's spiritual moment to confess his sin and restore his Father-son spiritual relationship, much like the prodigal son of Luke 15:14-2 or like David of Ps.51.

In the previous lesson, the Witch of En-dor screamed bloody murder when she saw Samuel's form (**1 Sam.28:11-14**).

- Witch: "I see a divine being coming up out of the earth."
- Saul: "What is his form?"
- Witch: "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped with a robe."

How could I understand the deceased Samuel's form of appearance? I recalled the transfiguration of Jesus with Moses and Elijah recorded in our lesson text.

**This lesson will study four aspects of the Transfiguration of Samuel.**

### **1. The Greek verb for transfiguration in (Matt.17:1-13) is metamorphoo (to change into another form).**

This same word is translated transform in (Rom.12:2) and (2 Cor.3:17-18).

- In **Rom.12:2**, the verb metamorphoo emphasizes change of the inner man by the cycling the word of God by faith. "For we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Cor.5:7)
- In **2 Cor.3:17-18**, metamorphoo is a change in character and conduct of a believer compatible with Jesus Christ by filling ministry of indwelling Holy Spirit in 2 Cor.3:17-18.

(Gal.5:16) "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."

### **2. One of the most interesting manifestations of Jesus Christ occurred in our lesson text, the transfiguration of Jesus Christ along with Moses and Elijah.**

The background to this transfiguration was very important for these three disciples of Jesus. Six people attended this transformation, but the lesson in it was designed for only three.

- These three disciples of Jesus were considered His inner circle of spiritually mature, super-grace leaders.
- These three were part of the background story (Matt.16:21-28) "**Truly I say to you**" (vs 28).

After six days of heavy Bible study recorded in (Matt.16:21-28), these three disciples were taken to witness the transfiguration and learn its Bible lesson. **But did they learn anything?**

### 3. I'm sad to say only one got it (John 19:26-27).

The others missed it because they walked by sight and not by faith (2 Cor.5:7).

Jesus wanted all of them to have an inner spiritual transformation from witnessing this transfiguration by cycling the truth of the word of God by faith (2 Tim.3:16-17).

Jesus changed His form to appear like Moses and Elijah (face, clothes, and voice out of heaven). Pay attention to what the voice of heaven commanded these three disciples – “This is My Beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; **listen (akouo/ p.a. impv.2pl) to Him.**” (Matt.17:5b)

### 4. What was the doctrinal point that God and Jesus wanted these three disciples to learn from the transfiguration?

The answer to this question is to understand the Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD [worldly thinking] stumbling block problem Peter had with Jesus' doctrine that He was teaching (Matt.16:21-22)

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(Matt.16:23). “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a **stumbling block** to Me; for you are NOT setting your mind on God's interests, but man's.”

Either Peter or God must change their mind regarding the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son (Eph.4:22-24; Rom.12:2). **Voice out of heaven:** What did God command from these three (3) disciples? (Matt.17:5) [read]

(Matt.17:9b) “Tell the vision to no one **UNTIL** the **Son of Man has risen from the dead.**”

(Matt.17:12b) (But I say to you) - “So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.”

(Matt.17:14) “Then the disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist.”

**The Transfiguration of Jesus did not lead to transformation by the renewing of the minds of these disciples**

(Rom.12:2). “so that they may prove the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect”