

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: March 11, 2007	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: St. Matthew 7: 1-13
Topic: Serving God On This Mountain...In spite of Our Fears - Apprehensions	



Fear can be crippling and keep us cornered. It can also be so irrational that we fear even that which we should not and fear can also make us become apprehensive even of that which is for our good.

This passage records what is referred to as “The Transfiguration of Jesus.” It follows Jesus’ warning of the:

- Corruption of religion by self-serving religious leaders
- Confession of Peter on Jesus being Christ
- Christ calling attention to His Crucifixion

In our focus passage the disciples were given:

- Great Exposure as to who Jesus is
- Grand Embargo on saying who Jesus is
- Grateful Explanation as to how opposition to Jesus works

Verses 1-8 speak of persons given a New Unveiling of Jesus. A revelation (Shining) of Jesus:

1. To Leading Ones
 2. As Luminous One
 3. As Legendary One
 4. Request made to Jesus (Stay)
 5. Recommendation of Jesus (Submit)
- 6-8 Reassurance of Jesus (Stand Up & See)

There is no need to fear seeing Jesus in all His Glory because we will not be harmed but helped by beholding His honor. Having beheld His brilliance, the next step is to serve Him because the fact is that we must not be afraid of His Glory as it is revealed.

In verse 9, we see persons given a New Undertaking by Jesus. There was somewhat of a restraint (silence) as his followers were instructed to not tell until the Resurrection. This reminds us that there is no need to fear silence on the secrets of Jesus until He is revealed in all His glory. God has His timing and people have their limitation and need time to learn or to re-learn. Now that we share His burden, we ought to serve Him. We must not announce His Glory until it is revealed to us to do so.

Jesus’ followers were also given New Understanding by Jesus, as seen in verses 10-13. It was as if the scales fell from their eyes as they gained a realization of:

- Of who His Forerunner is: John The Baptist
- Of who it is they were following: Jesus The Blessed Lamb

. There is no need to fear seeing the suffering of the Savior and His servants until the final revelation of His Glory. *It is the way of the cross that leads home. Must Jesus bear the cross alone ...there is one for you and one for me.* This is a reminder that we ought to serve Him because we know His bruises. We must not avoid suffering until His Glory is revealed.

We can serve God on any mountain without fear through a growing knowledge of Jesus Christ who came to bring His Perfect Love which drives out Fear. Let us therefore with full assurance of faith draw near to God by looking unto Jesus, The Author and Perfector of our Faith.