

Lord, It is Good to be Here

February 7, 2016

Luke 9:28-36 -- “About eight days after Jesus said this, He took Peter, John and James with Him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about His departure, which He was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to Him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.) While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A Voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him.” When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves, and told no one at that time what they had seen.”

It is good to be here? It is good to be in the House of The Lord to listen to the Word of God our Savior. It is good to learn all that we can about the Lord Jesus Christ our Victorious Savior, Who conquered death and the devil on our behalf, who made the payment of His life for our sin, Who suffered the hell that we deserve, Who rose Victorious. BUT, are you happy to be here? Are you glad to be here In God’s House or would you rather be someplace else?

The Psalmist declares: **35:9 “My soul will rejoice in the Lord and delight in His Salvation.” Psalm 119:162 – I rejoice at your Word as one who finds great treasure.”** (NKJV)

Today in this portion of Scripture we see Jesus Who had taken Peter, James and John with Him up a high mountain. The mountain is unknown, even though some Theologians try to make educated guesses. Peter James and John were with Jesus, but they were sleepy, even in the presence of the Lord Jesus. When they saw this transformation of Jesus, this glimpse of His Heavenly Glory, they became fully awake.

Vs. 29 – “As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.”

These three disciples see a glimpse of Christ’s Glory. Not only is Jesus True Man, He is also True God! Jesus Who as is correctly stated in the Formula of Concord a Thorough Declaration Article VII pg. 987 of the Concordia Triglotta: “*Jesus is not a mere man or angel, neither true, wise and Mighty only, But the Eternal Truth and Wisdom itself and Almighty God, Who knows very well what and how He is to speak and Who also can powerfully effect and execute everything that He speaks and promises.*”

Thus it is extremely important to listen to Jesus, as God the Father clearly states, **Listen To Him**, For Jesus is. The Eternal Truth, Equal with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. As Jesus is Transfigured upon the mountain suddenly there appeared Moses and Elijah in glorious splendor. Moses who had died 1500 years before and Elijah who was taken into heaven with a Whirlwind and chariot of fire and horses of fire approximately 850 years prior are now there with Jesus in glorious splendor.

God in His grace not only has given a glimpse of Christ’s Glory, but also some insight into heaven. As soon as we die, we will know what heaven will be like, and we will be with Jesus. And it is this certainty that gives us reason to rejoice every day as we live beneath God’s loving and forgiving Grace in Jesus. It is for this reason that as we are here in Public Worship that we can say with confidence.

It is Good to Be here!

It is good to be here, because in this place we hear the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ and we have opportunity to Publically proclaim our allegiance and loyalty to Christ Jesus our God and Savior as we look forward to that day when we will be with Jesus in glorious splendor forever in heaven.