

SERMON NOTES

February 22-23, 2020 – Pastor Kischnick

THEME: “IN HIS PRESENCE” TEXT: Matthew 17:1-9

INTRO. Tuesday morning, Oct.1988 – Principal, hallway w/teacher. Young man, 5-day beard, unkempt hair, ragged jeans – “Hi”, headed to Preschool Teacher: “Know who that was?”, No, Don Mattingly, 1st base – Yankees, “Donnie Baseball”, 6x All-star. 2nd most famous person I’ve ever met.

SO...who’s the most famous person you’ve ever been in the presence of? Senator, Movie Star, Entertainer, Celebrity? I wager: ONLY #2!

TEXT: Transfiguration – Moses/Elijah>over-shadowed by “The SHEKINAH”
The Presence of the Most High, Majestic Glory, The Cloud. What’s mean?

I. GOD’S PRESENCE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

A. When something *important* was happening:

1. Burning Bush
2. Exodus
3. Mt. Sinai

B. “*I am with you!*”

1. Leading Israel in the Wilderness 40 years
2. Dedication of the Tabernacle
3. Dedication of Solomon’s Temple

II. GOD’S PRESENCE ON THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION

Illust. The Myth of Medusa: so evil/stone; God so good!

A. No eye has seen/can see God as He is.

Illust. Matter/Anti-Matter; Light/Darkness

1. Sinners cannot stand in the Judgment.
2. Sinners can’t even stand in His Presence.
3. God in His mercy veils Himself in cloud or smoke.

B. Cloud = “Shekinah” = The Presence of the Almighty

C. God veiled Himself in FLESH – Jesus, Son of God

1. Immanuel = “God with Us”
2. “I and the Father are One.”
3. “Listen to HIM!” (Moses and Elijah pay homage.)

III. JESUS IS THE “SHEKINAH”

Illust. 1st apartment, 2 yrs. – corners – 2 guys: “Purple Haze”

A. Jesus was God’s Presence “in the flesh.”

B. Jesus continues to be present in the WORD.

C. Jesus continues to be present in BAPTISM.

D. Jesus is especially present in the SACRAMENT of the ALTAR:

1. Real Presence
2. As close as *you* get...
3. As close as *HE* gets: “...that they may be ONE as we are ONE, Father. “...*the Father and I* will come to *YOU*.”

CLOSE: Ezra, Exile– rebuild Temple, weeping>Shekinah filled= glory/mercy

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