

August 2, 2015

Mark 9:1-13

INTRO:

*Last week I gave 4 minute thought for the day for a group of people I had never met before.

-There was a leader of a large organization and his staff in the room of about 30 people.

*I thought a lot about my thoughts about that thought for the day.

*What was my goal, my motivation, what does this matter compared to what were to me the larger issues in my life and family at the time...how should I think about it?

*I walked the hall of the building before the meeting and looked at the pictures of the long list of men who had been in the leader's position...all gone, mostly forgotten, many were dead.

*So how do you presume to give a relevant thought for people you don't even know?

*What is true is true for everyone, everywhere.

*As I listened to them to discuss the complex issues they were tasked with dealing with and at the same time saw them as they are...just people, flesh and blood...so very limited.

*I thought about how powerless we are all to control the larger outcomes of our lives, let alone the world at large.

*These thoughts didn't immobilize me into passivity but rather pushed my mind to the reality that we cannot put our confidence in self, we must trust God.

*We all we need continual "sanity checks"...thoughts for the day...that become thoughts for more than today... =life shaping thoughts.

*We need to take our minds over and over back to the reality of God and our desperate need for him.

*In my thought for the day that day I gave an apologetic for "thoughts for the day"

*Rodin's Thinker...choosing life shaping thoughts require all of us...extreme effort...nothing is more important than thinking true thoughts.

*Today we are going to look at interesting story of worship contrasted with the impotence of self-confidence apart from faith.

*I challenge you to mentally put aside your week...last and next...and engage God in this hour.

***We are being shaped by the thoughts we allow to make their homes in our heads...the gospel is truth...not a truth in a crowded marketplace personalized realities...it is the very truth of God.**

*This is why we must, over and over, fix our thoughts on the gospel...so the truth of God will shape our lives.

Mark 9:1 And he said to them, “I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.” **2** After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. **3** His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. **4** And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. **5** Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” **6** (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) **7** Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” **8** Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. **9** As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. **10** They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what “rising from the dead” meant. **11** And they asked him, “Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?” **12** Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected? **13** But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him.”

*To understand what is happening here we need to go back to the Exodus.

*The people living in bondage had been freed from slavery and were being lead by Moses to the land of promise.

*Moses was the one who met with God on behalf of the people...he was their priest/leader.

*In addition to the law that demonstrated the will and ways of God to the people...Moses also received detailed instructions on how to build a Tabernacle...a physical place where God would meet with his people and dwell among them.

*It was quite large for a portable structure (about 1200 square feet under cover) when it was all set up.

*It was also very beautiful, made of precious stones and materials.

*This week I was reading the detailed instructions God gave Moses regarding the design of the structures and my mind wandered...to be honest I became impatient.

*"Come on" I thought, "do we really need all of this detail?"

*"God, why do you even have opinions on all of this?"

*Then after I did my Bible reading...I prayed about my granddaughter Norah.

*I thought about the genetic detail of her little body that affects her little life and ours so profoundly.

*Then suddenly the details of the Tabernacle were not mind-numbing they were heart warming for me...God is in the details...all of them.

*The details of the Tabernacle are nothing compared to the details of a human body.

*The precision of his instructions are teaching something about his involvement with his people...with you and with me.

*But let's look at how the Tabernacle ties in with the gospel.

Exodus 40:33 And so Moses finished the work **34** Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. **35** Moses could not enter the Tent of Meeting because the cloud had settled upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

*Moses was the priest who went into the presence of God on behalf of the people...but even he could not enter when the cloud settled on it...God was in there.

*Now back to Mark...

7 Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" **8** Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

*What do you see? The cloud covered the mountain, the glory of the Lord filled the place.

*Then suddenly it was just them and Jesus.

*This is very significant...we will come back to it.

*Jump to Hebrews...

Heb. 8: 11 When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. **12** He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

*Jesus is the final tabernacle...the place where God encounters men and women.

*And he was the final sacrifice, the price paid there for the sins of men and women.

*John 1:14 says "The word became flesh and dwelt (word is tabernacled) among us."

*Okay, now that we have the high level view of this passage, let's go back down and walk through it together.

*Jesus said that some standing there will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come in power.

*Of course Jesus was not confused about his second coming...he wasn't saying he would return before the people present died.

*This statement connects last week with this week...he is preparing them for what would happen 6 days later...this event called the transfiguration.

*The transfiguration is a revelation of the glory of the Son of God, a glory now hidden but will be revealed openly at the end of the age.

*He said in the passage from last week...he would come in his Father's glory after his death and resurrection.

*This event, six days later was a pre-view of that great future event.

*This is six days after his difficult teaching about his suffering and death, so he selects a small group of his disciples to accompany him up the mountain to give them the fuller picture of his purposes...not just suffering, death, but resurrection and glory are in his future and theirs.

*Its difficult to know exactly what happened but Mark could only say "Jesus' clothes (probably all of him) were whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them."

*Peter in telling the story to Mark no doubt had a difficult time describing this supernatural brightness...this is the best he could do...some out of this world bleach.

*What he was saying was "this was not of this world"

*But **why** and **how** did Elijah and Moses show up?"

Why these two?

*It's interesting both men ended their lives in mysterious ways...God was uniquely involved in the end of their lives.

***2Kings 2:11 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. 12 Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.**

Deut. 34:5 And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. 6 He (God) buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. 7 Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.

*Apart from unique end of life circumstances...why these two?...Perhaps its because they represent the law and the prophets and Jesus has fulfilled them both.

***How:**

*How did they show up?

*That's easy...God allowed them to.

*You know they are still alive; God is able to make them accessible to human senses if he chooses.

*It's not like they had to "travel from Heaven" down to earth in space ship.

*The dead in Christ exist in a real existence (they are not dead)...not less real, but more substantial than what we experience.

*Peter wants them to hang around, offers to build shelters for them...the word is the Greek word for tents or tabernacles.

*Peter recognizes this is the coming together of the promises of God...the OT and NT colliding in Jesus.

*Here are the Heroes of Old, having a little chat with Jesus right there in front of them.

*Peter responds impulsively with his "let's make Tabernacles" remark.

*Mark gives his friend a break in quoting Peter, had adds this sidebar..."He was afraid and didn't know what to say."

*Of course if you don't know what to say generally its a good idea to not say anything...but that was not Peter's normal strategy...he was more of a ready, fire, aim guy.

*Centuries earlier Moses was on a mountain and God spoke from the cloud, Moses was afraid.

*At that time even with the great Moses...God revealed his glory indirectly to him or he would die.

*And even getting near to God was enough to "transform Moses" appearance for a time, he reflected the glory of God."

*Now we are on top of another mountain, and there is glory again.

*This time Jesus produces the glory of God, he does not merely reflect it...

*Jesus does not point to the glory of God as other prophets had done...he **is** the glory of God in human form.

Hebrews 1:3 "The Son (Jesus) is the radiance of God's glory and exact representation of his being."

*Something else happens...they guys are in the presence of God and they do not die.

*God had told Moses "no one can see my face and live" the gap between God and humanity is too great...his glory, his holiness would destroy us.

*That's why Peter is scared, he doesn't know what to say...lets put up some shelters, tabernacles.

*As I said when God's glory came down on Sinai the people built a tabernacle.

*There Priests went with sacrifices and rituals to mediate the gap between God and humans...to protect us in our sinful state from his divine holiness.

*Peter is saying "We need to set up tabernacles...we need some protection from God's presence."

*Then as in the days of the OT God speaks from a cloud and says "This is my Son, I love him, listen to him."

*Remember Jesus had said "I must suffer and die."

*Peter had said..."No way"

*Now God says..."listen to my son"

*"Listen" equals "obey" not merely hear.

*Like a parent says to a child "Listen to me" they don't mean merely "hear me" they mean, "Obey me."

*Then suddenly Elijah and Moses are gone and no one is there with them except for Jesus.

*Mark is saying...Moses is gone, Elijah is gone, Jesus is the bridge over the gap.

*Jesus delivered what Elijah, and Moses could not...Jesus is the temple and the tabernacle and the end of both...he is the end of all sacrifices and separation.

*When God comes down in their presence they are not destroyed by God's power...they hear him speak of his love for Jesus just as he did at the baptism that began the gospel of Mark.

*James, Peter, John have experienced worship...they have been in the presence of the glory of Christ.

*Worship is a preview of the glory to come...its both a present experience and a future preparation.

*Worship is vitally important for our lives now.

*Then somewhat anti-climatically...they begin to walk down the mountain.

*Why do I say that?

*Well after something like that it would be strange to feel lactic acid form in your leg muscles, maybe turn your ankle on a stone, to get dust in your nose and eyes...stomach rumbles from hunger.

*It would be tough to touch the stuff of earth after experiencing the stuff of heaven like they did.

*But such is life now.

*As they walk Jesus tells the guys to keep this secret until after the resurrection.

*This revelation of the glory of the Son of Man was to be proclaimed after the death of Jesus.

*The people expected the Jesus on the mountain...full of glory...they didn't expect the bloody, beaten, murdered Savior they would soon see.

*But the cross would come before the glory was to be revealed...this experience at this time was just for these three guys.

*They still didn't understand the whole resurrection thing...but maybe they didn't want to ask another question that might look dumb...so they just discuss it among themselves.

*Then they finally ask Jesus a question about Elijah.

*They knew that the teachers of law said that he would precede the Messiah.

*Jesus said that the teachers are right about Elijah he will come first and restore all things...and in fact he has.

*Though he doesn't mention John the Baptist here the reference to him is obvious..."They have done everything to him they wished."

*Now they are walking down the mountain...trying to process what had just happened.

*Once again, Jesus instructs them to wait before talking..."You guys don't even know how to think about this yet...so don't talk about this until the story is complete."

*They walk down the mountain into a problem.

Mark 9:14 When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. 15 As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. 16 "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked. 17 A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. 18 Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

*They come down from this worship experience and find confusion...life down from the mountain is messy.

*Evil was seemingly in charge and the disciples could do nothing about it.

*V. 15 says the people were overcome with wonder when they saw Jesus and ran to greet him...why?

*Maybe because his presence naturally evoked this wonder...wonder is only one step from worship.

*But why didn't all people respond this way?

*If his presence evoked wonder and worship...how could some folks respond negatively to him?

*His presence evoked **out** what was **in**...wonder from some, fear others, and hatred from still others.

*The eminent contemporary philosopher Thomas Nagel, admits that his deepest objection to Christian faith stems not from his philosophy but his fear.

"I am talking about something much deeper— namely the fear of religion itself. I speak from experience, being strongly subject to this fear myself: I want atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most intelligent and well-informed people I know are religious believers. It isn't just that I don't

believe in God and, naturally, hope that I'm right in my belief. It's that I hope there is no God! I don't want there to be a God; I don't want the universe to be like that."

*At least he is honest.

As Pascal wrote long ago, "Men despise religion. They hate it and are afraid it may be true." Guinness, Os (2015-07-04). Fool's Talk.

*At any rate what we see is that while Jesus is on the mountain revealing his glory to three of his guys...it was a mess down below.

*Which by the way there is another lesson in this fact.

*Why did he only show himself to those three not the rest?

*Why give them a glimpse of glory and the other nine are down getting bested by a demon?

*We don't know, we can't know why his plans are so vastly varied...but we can learn from the fact that clearly he has different plans, and paths for different people.

*He intends to meet us on his path for us...not his path for someone else.

*Anyway down below the teachers of the law were challenging the other nine..."So you follow this Jesus huh? How come this demon is stronger than you...what does that say about your truth claims and those of your master?"

*The disciples were trying to counter spiritual evil with their own ability...it was an attempt at prayerless exorcism.

*Meanwhile the religious leaders were mocking their impotence.

*Jesus steps up...speaks to the entire crowd...disciples, as well as teachers of the Law.

19 "O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me." 20 So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. 21 Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. 22 "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

*This is truly a pitiful situation and the dad asks for pity..."If you can do anything, take pity on us."

23 "If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."

*This is not Jesus playing verbal games with a hurting man.

*"What do you mean 'if I can'!...hurrumph...do you know who I am?"

*This is Jesus calling for faith in him...

24 Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

*Bingo...that is faith...faith in Jesus, not in self.

*This is prayer has encouraged me for many years.

*I have prayed something like it many times.

*I don't think it is a place we should stay.

*Ideally we are becoming people who are able to say, "I do believe." period.

*But it is encouraging to see the Lord respond to this man's faith/doubt.

*Jesus didn't say..."If you could have seen me on the mountain you would not be giving me this "believe...don't believe stuff"...I'm not sure if you have what it takes."

*The man did have what it takes...what it takes is confidence in Jesus in spite of an utter lack of self-confidence.

*The man lacked faith in his own faith...but in his despair he threw himself on the mercy of Jesus.

25 When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

*Jesus may have liked to spend a little more time instructing this father.

*But there was already a crowd, and now it was about to get much larger.

*Since Jesus was not interested in a show...he went straight to work and took authority over the evil spirit.

26 The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. 28 After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" 29 He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer."

*Later when it was just Jesus and his guys they asked him "Why? Why didn't the demon respond to us?"

*They have experienced power over demons before, now they were confused.

*Jesus answers them..."This kind can come out only by prayer."

*This doesn't mean just "saying a prayer"...it indicated a reliance on God not self.

*They must have become self-confident...presumptuous..."We can handle this ourselves."

*They found out, they couldn't.

*We have probably all had times when we lived with deep reliance on God, when we have rightly lost confidence in our own energy and efforts.

*Most of the times this occurs during difficult times.

*Then, maybe the skies clear up, the seas we are sailing become smooth...strange how we suddenly begin to believe..."I can handle this...I got this."

*The nine discovered, as we all do...they were powerless and utterly dependent on God.

APPLICATION:

*This story is a contrast...the guys upon the mountain, experiencing the full reality of who Jesus is...able to stay in the presence of God that would have killed even Moses...because they were standing in that presence with Jesus.

*He was their mediator.

*The guys down the mountain experiencing the full reality of a life apart from Jesus.

*Evil reigns there and they are powerless before it.

*Jesus on the mountain expressing his full glory, Jesus down the mountain expressing his full authority.

*Then a man who has something that barely resembles what we might call faith.

"I believe, help me with my doubt."

*What an amazing story.

*How about you...do you believe or do you doubt?

*Maybe you would say "yes."

*I'm not sure this kind of doubt is all bad...its uncomfortable...but is it bad?

*Evidently he didn't doubt Jesus existed, or was able...he likely doubted his own faith.

*I don't doubt God is there, and powerful, and loving.

*I doubt my ability to stay faithful, to honor him no matter what, to deal with the confusion I sometimes feel in navigating life.

*Jesus said everything is possible for him who believes...I believe that...but not everything possible is not going to happen...even for those who believe.

*There are many possibilities in our lives...we can believe God is able but the possibility we desire may not be the possibility God does.

*So I doubt my self because I can easily confuse my will with his will and they are not always one and the same.

*I doubt my motives, my perspective, I doubt my faith...but not the one my faith is in.

*That's why this man comforts me...he didn't seem to doubt Jesus...his doubts where in his own faith, his own ability to believe.

*Which brings me to another prayer I dearly love.

Phil. 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

*Paul is confident that he will have the courage to honor Christ, to follow through, to finish well...in life and all that comes his way, and in and through death.

*Here's why...

***Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.**

*His confidence is in his surrendered relationship with Christ.

*He has reason for confidence because of what Christ has done for him...he has feelings of confidence because of his abiding relationship with Christ.

*If you know Christ...you are on solid ground with your life, hopes, death...he will not leave you.

*However its possible to be on solid ground to have reasons for confidence and to live without confidence.

*To live as if the ground beneath you is moving, unstable, liable to swallow you up at any moment.

*There are two separate issues in our faith:

1. confidence that is true and real in our lives objectively because the Gospel is true and real.

2. confidence that is experienced in our hearts and minds subjectively because we are doing the work of "thinking consistently" about the truth of the gospel.

***This brings us full circle...**there is no more important work you can do than the work of thinking true thoughts about the gospel and your life.

*Whether its thoughts about a thought for the day, a surgery, a tragedy, a day off, a temptation...we must think what is true...and the gospel is true.

*Whether you feel it or not... its true.

*However we must embrace this truth with our minds in order for it to more fully shape our lives.

***A strong faith in a weak bridge, a weak faith in a strong bridge....**

*Long scary walk across the bridge.

*The gospel is a strong bridge...we must let it nest deep in our thoughts so that it affects our feelings, our beliefs about life.

*Talk about it, tell it to your children, tell it to your friends, tell it to yourself, read about it, close your eyes and think about it.

*Someone may say..."**If** its true it shouldn't be this much work."

*My reply is..."Nonsense, **since** its truth it is worth this much work...do the work!"

SMALL GROUP NOTES

Intro:

1. What are some key thoughts that have shaped the world/our culture good and bad?
2. What are some key thoughts that have shaped your life in negative ways (past or present)?
3. What are some key thoughts that are shaping your life now in positive ways?

Read:

Mark 9:1 And he said to them, “I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.” **2** After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. **3** His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. **4** And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. **5** Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” **6** (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) **7** Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” **8** Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. **9** As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. **10** They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what “rising from the dead” meant. **11** And they asked him, “Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?” **12** Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected? **13** But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him.” **14** When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. **15** As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. **16** “What are you arguing with them about?” he asked. **17** A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. **18** Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.” **19** “O unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” **20** So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. **21** Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood,” he answered. **22** “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” **23** “If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for him who believes.” **24** Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” **25** When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” **26** The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” **27** But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. **28** After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” **29** He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

Discuss:

1. Why do you think God allowed Jesus' disciples to see Elijah and Moses?
2. Discuss the similarities between the "Transfiguration" event and the experiences of Israel in the wilderness. Specifically Moses and his encounters with God on the mountain and God's presence manifest to Israel in the Tabernacle. (See Sermon notes)
3. The Old Testament and the New Testament are two parts of a single story. Discuss how you have seen this to be true in our study of Mark so far.
4. What do you believe are the implications of Jesus telling his disciples "This kind can come out only by prayer."?
5. There is a strong contrast between the experience of the disciples on the mountain at Jesus transfiguration and the disciples down below experiencing the negative encounter with the demon. Do you ever struggle with the differences in God's plan for your life as opposed with someone else? It could be you feel your life is much better than others, or much worse. What is the right way to think about these differences?
6. The distraught father told Jesus "I do believe, help my unbelief." What are the implications of this "prayer"?
7. Is this a "model" prayer, a place we should stay in our faith or more or a "reality" prayer, a place we often are in our faith? Why or why not?
8. What must happen for us to move past this kind of faith?

Apply:

*There is a difference between having factual reasons for confidence in someone or something and having emotional, personal confidence in someone or something.

*It has been said that "A lot of faith in weak bridge will land you in the River but a little faith in a strong bridge will get you safely across."

*The strength of the bridge is an objective fact, true regardless of whether you believe it or not.

*However walking on a strong bridge with little personal confidence in the bridge can make for a difficult journey.

*How can you more consistently allow the gospel to shape your thinking and therefore shape your living and your "feeling"?

THE GOSPEL OF

MARK



Mark 9:1-13

**“FOR EVEN THE
SON OF MAN
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MARK 10:45

J. STILL



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Exodus 40:33-35 And so Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the Tent of Meeting because the cloud had settled upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

Heb. 8: 11-12 When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

**"The word became flesh and dwelt
(tabernacled) among us."**

John 1:14

2 Kings 2:11-12 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.

Deut. 34:5-7 And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. He (God) buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.

**"The Son is the radiance of God's glory
and exact representation of his being."**

Hebrews 1:3

Mark 9:14-18 When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

“What are you arguing with them about?” he asked. A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”

"I am talking about something much deeper—namely the fear of religion itself. I speak from experience, being strongly subject to this fear myself: I want atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most intelligent and well-informed people I know are religious believers. It isn't just that I don't believe in God and, naturally, hope that I'm right in my belief. It's that I hope there is no God! I don't want there to be a God; I don't want the universe to be like that."

Thomas Nagel

“Men despise religion. They hate it and are afraid it may be true.”

Pascal

Mark 9:19-22 “O unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood,” he answered. “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.”

**Mark 9:23 “If you can?” said Jesus.
“Everything is possible for him who
believes.”**

**Mark 9:24 Immediately the boy's father
exclaimed, "I do believe; help me
overcome my unbelief!"**

Mark 9:25 When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

Mark 9:26-29 The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

**Mark 9:24 Immediately the boy's father
exclaimed, "I do believe; help me
overcome my unbelief**

Phil. 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

**Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and
to die is gain.**

**"If its true it shouldn't be this much
work."**

**"Nonsense, since its true it is worth this
much work!"**

