

The Gracious Master

“About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray...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.”

Luke 9:28, 30-31 (NIV)

What is so remarkable about this brief moment described in our verses today is that the topic of discussion was the truth Peter had vigorously denied several days earlier (Matthew 16:13-23). In other words, if Peter would not listen to the Lord about the events coming in a year's time, Peter would have to listen as our Lord spoke with Moses and Elijah concerning the cross.

Jesus is being gracious to Peter in teaching him that the crucifixion was certainly going to occur – as the Father had planned it in eternity. We marvel at how gently the Lord dealt with His rebellious disciple Peter. What a privilege for Peter to witness this merging of two worlds as Moses and Elijah step back into time from eternity to talk with Jesus.

First the Lord called Peter out from the twelve along

with James and John, then He allowed Peter to see something of His glory. Finally the Lord allowed Peter to see Moses and Elijah as they spoke about the very thing Peter had rejected – the cross.

Is it not wonderful to see how the gracious Master put this scene together? It encouraged and instructed Peter about the sovereignty of God. Peter saw how God does all His holy will whether he agreed with it or not.

Peter was joined by James and John, and it does not take much imagination to think of how the three apostles would review this scene over and over during the next few months. James and John would certainly have encouraged Peter to accept the will of God over his own will.

If you are struggling today with some difficult aspect of God's will for you, look

around to see how Jesus is gently helping you to accept His will over your will. The situation today may be bitter and painful, but in the end you will see that God's way is always the best way.

Listen for the voice of God speaking to your troubled spirit. Read the Scriptures to find His will and purpose for your suffering. Spend time praying for enlightenment, for grace to endure, for some understanding of the problem. Speak to mature Christians about your confusion of heart. Find a believer who has walked the same road as you and ask them how the Lord brought them through the suffering. God will provide a mountain of transfiguration for you if you seek Him with all your heart.