

This morning I woke between three and four and, as is my custom, I waited ...listening for the Lord to speak. I immediately was reminded of the Mount of Transfiguration story and particularly the words, ***“This is my beloved Son; listen to Him!”*** He also gave me another “seed thought” which I needed to pray about. I knew that these things were what He wanted me to focus on in the next letter or teaching or ...whatever. I thought that I would go back to sleep and do that project when I got up, but that was not what HE had in mind, so eventually..... I crawled out of that nice warm bed, turned on the heat in my office and got to work.

A bit after five I was finished.....and was free to go back to bed again. So I did and slept peacefully until six when my day normally starts. The following letter captures the first thoughts about the words, ***“This is my beloved Son; listen to Him!”*** but.... but, I have totally forgotten the second thought.

If I had stayed up, perhaps I could have discovered what that seed contained, but now, just a bit later I have lost the seed..... [at least for the moment]. Maybe,maybe I should have listened more carefully to the first message, ***“This is my beloved Son; listen to Him!”***

Well, here is what I DID GET DONE..... I will tell you the rest when I remember and hear ...*'the rest of the story'*.

Mat 17:1-8 ***Six days later Jesus *took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and *led them up on a high mountain by themselves. (2) And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. (3) And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. (4) Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (5) While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" (6) When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified. (7) And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." (8) And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.***

This is an interesting event in the life of Jesus where He met with and talked to Moses and Elijah. We are not told what they were discussing, but perhaps Moses was noting that Jesus was fulfilling the law even better than he, Moses, had understood it. And perhaps Elijah was observing that Jesus had fulfilled almost all that the prophets had written concerning Him. Whatever it was, things were really cranking in the spiritual realm. The disciples were overwhelmed with the whole thing and were so stirred up spiritually that Peter suggested that he would build three tabernacles so that they could stay there in comfort. Or perhaps he thought that these three tabernacles should be built to celebrate each of them; one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

Of course Moses would represent the importance of the Law with Elijah representing the prophets, and then Jesus representingwell...whatever He represented. What a great idea.....but, ...***while he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"***

The disciples did a nose dive into the ground; even Peter was silent!

It would appear that the Father was not interested in tabernacles for any reason. He had a different idea.

First - ***“This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased...***

Secondly [therefore] - ***“listen to Him!” The Father said, “He is My beloved Son.”***
“Listen to Him!”

Today, many people who think about this at all, think that God was telling the disciples to pay attention to Jesus for the next two or three years. After that, people could read about what He had said at one time in the dark ancient past so they read their red-lettered edition of the Bible; they focus on what Jesus said then rather than what Jesus is saying now. They may acknowledge that sometimes Jesus does suddenly **'highlight'** some of His ancient words and they actually **"hear"** Him, but often that is the exception rather than the rule.

Father had and has a better idea. ***"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"*** [Listen and hear what HE is saying now!]

For all time, Jesus said, Joh 10:27-28 ***"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;"*** and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

Are you one of His sheep; do you hear His voice?

Joh 8:31-32 ***"If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."***

We, like the disciples, tend to want to listen for a moment, but then, all too soon we build tabernacles and monuments to the ancient prophets and lawyers as well as modern day writers and speakers. It simply is too hard to quietly listen and receive with faith what the Beloved Son is saying. Like the Children of Israel we say, Deu 5:27 ***"You go near and hear all that the LORD our God says; then speak to us all that the LORD our God speaks to you, and we will hear and do it."***

BUT THEY DID NOT OBEY - IN FACT, THEY COULD NOT OBEY. A second-hand revelation does not enable either them or us to obey.

God has chosen to make His dwelling within us so that He can write His laws and His attributes upon our hearts so that we will know and do His will. He comes within to enable us to accomplish exploits by His own powerful presence.

"This is My beloved Son; listen to Him!" Mark 9:7

Now stop reading this stuff and LISTEN – listen to HIM! 😊

LOVE,

George

P.S. Does all this indicate that we no longer need apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers? Of course not, but no man is equipped to be the replacement of the living indwelling Savior ***listen to Him.... as the way of lifefor HE IS OUR LIFE!***