

Mark 9:2-50

A. The Transfiguration (9:2-8).

1. Comparison between Moses and Jesus c.f. Exodus 24:1,9,15-16.
2. Transfiguration—foreshadowing of Jesus' resurrection; radiance and glory.

B. The Question about Elijah (9:9-13).

1. Disciples question Jesus on the basis of Mal. 4:5-6 that Elijah must come first before the great and terrible day of the Lord. Jewish tradition believes Elijah's appearance will usher in a earthly kingdom of messianic splendor.
2. The disciples do not understand why Jesus must die if Elijah comes first.
3. Elijah's mission according to Malachi was to restore the hearts of the fathers to their children (4:6).
4. John, as Elijah, has been imprisoned and beheaded because of the hard heartedness of the present generation.

C. Jesus laments over the lack of faith (9:14-19).

D. The Power of Faith (9:20-29).

1. Power of prayer—those who have faith will set no limits to the power of God.
2. A life of Prayer—complete dependence upon God.

E. Second Prediction of Jesus Suffering and Resurrection (9:30-37).

1. Were the disciples afraid because Peter was rebuked in 8:33? Or were they more worried about who was the greatest among them?
2. Humility...Humility...Humility

F. The Unfamiliar Exorcist (9:38-41).

1. The recently bungled an exorcism, yet they do not hesitate to obstruct someone who is successful but not a member of their team; A plea for a Kingdom Mentality.

G. Warning about Causing others to Stumble (9:42-48).

1. Disciples need to be more worried about the evil in them than about outsiders.

H. Salt (9:49-50).

1. If salt loses its saltiness it is worthless—it cannot preserve the food; therefore, if the disciples lose the distinct character Christ desires—they are not real disciples.