

Luke Chapter 9

V: 1-2 After ministering to the demoniacs of Gadara, healing the woman of her issue of blood, and raising Jairus' daughter from the dead – Jesus sends out the 12 disciples / Apostles to do the same.

- He gave them power for specific things: to preach the Gospel, to heal the sick, and to drive out demons.

Matthew 28:18 “¹⁸And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.”

- Jesus possesses all power, it is His to give to whomever He chooses – He alone imparts power.

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- Jesus' ministry consisted of teaching, preaching, and healing. The disciples are sent out to preach and to heal, but no mention of teaching. For various reasons they're weren't ready to teach yet.

- Later there is specific mention made of teaching others what they have learned and are now ready to teach, that is to be obedient to the word of God.

Matthew 28:19-20 “¹⁹Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...”

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- Notice the order: 1st they were “called” – then 2nd they were empowered to do the Lord's bidding, 3rd they are sent. God's servants are usually sent somewhere.
 - There were many disciples, multitudes of followers – they weren't all called to the same things.

Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me.”

John 15:5 “I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.”

- Luke is a shorter account, an abbreviated version whereas Matthew gives us a fuller picture:

After listing the 12 Apostles:

Matthew 10:5-8 “⁵These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not. ⁶But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And as ye go, preach saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand. ⁸Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

- Luke leaves out the part about not going to the Gentiles. Why do you suppose he did that? Because he was writing to the Gentiles / Greeks.
- They were sent to preach the “kingdom of God”, preaching the same message as John the Baptist and Jesus.

Matthew 3:2, 4:17 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
(Jesus’ first words in His public ministry)

“The kingdom of heaven is here!” - Messiah is here, Jesus is here, Salvation is here!

1 Corinthians 1:21 “For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

Romans 10:13-15 ¹³“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. ¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

John 3:16 ¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.”

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 ³“For I have delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

- Heal the sick; raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons.
- They were empowered to do the impossible! They were sent out with “credentials”.

Matthew 19:26 “But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

- They would be facing demonic spirits / forces:

1 John 4:4 “Ye are of God little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than He that is in the world.”

- These things had been foretold:

Isaiah 35:5-6 “⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.”

V: 3 No worldly means to accomplish this heavenly commission:

2 Corinthians 10:4 “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.”

Zechariah 4:6 “Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, this is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”

- God doesn't “need” our help.

Jesus would later say:

Matthew 16:18 “... I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

- They were specifically put in a place of dependency, having to trust the Lord:
- No money meant no food unless someone was charitable / loving. No extra coat meant that you were not prepared to sleep outside, depending on someone taking you in. No staves, walking stick or shoes – you couldn't go very far unless someone gave you a ride.

Proverbs 3:5-6 “⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, ⁶in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Hebrews 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please Him...”

V: 4 The Apostles depended on the hospitality of others as they ministered from town to town.

- In those days, for a town to refuse a guest was a breach of etiquette.

Matthew 10:11-13 “¹¹And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, inquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. ¹²And when ye come into an house, salute it. ¹³And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.”

- The Apostles / ambassadors were to remain only with those who were “worthy”, those who trusted in Christ and received His message of peace and forgiveness.
- If it all worked out well then let your peace, your blessing rest upon it as well.

- The typical Jewish greeting “shalom” – peace be with you... health, prosperity, God’s favor and blessing...

V: 5 They weren’t however to compromise, if a town rejected their words, they were to warn the people and depart. To shake off the dust as an act of judgment.

- Religious leaders would shake the “gentile” dust off their feet prior to entering Jerusalem, so as not to defile the Holy city.
- This was something well known in their culture.

Acts 13:50-51 ⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts. ⁵¹But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.”

V: 6 So off they went in obedience to Jesus’ command – preaching and healing as they went.

V: 7-9 Herod the tetrarch: Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch, which means ruler of the fourth (1/4) part.

- Although Herod correctly associated John and Jesus together, but it seems to be based on superstition.
- Jesus is getting attention from all quarters, and is being associated with the mighty prophets of old.
- Herod wants to see Jesus, seemingly to see some display of power.
- Herod Antipas would see Jesus when He was sent by Pontius Pilate to judge Jesus only to try to find some fault in Him.
- Antipas never did find fault in Jesus; instead he mocked Jesus – who wouldn’t talk to him, and was sent back to Pilate.

V: 10 The Apostles return from their preaching and healing missionary trip.

- As the disciples were returned to testify about what God had done through them, at the same time Jesus took His disciples to away to a private place near Bethsaida (House of fish)

V: 11 When the people knew or saw where He was headed they followed Him

“... *and He received them...*”

John 6:37 “All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.”

Ephesians 1:6 “To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.”

Matthew 11:28 “Come unto Me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

V: 11b “... He spoke to them...” gave them the word of God, speaking about the kingdom of God – salvation, and healed them – meeting their need.

Matthew 14:14 “And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and He healed their sick.”

Psalms 86:15 “But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.”

V: 12-18 The feeding of the 5,000 – a synopsized version:

- **Feeding of the 5,000 is recorded in all 4 Gospels.** Matthew 14:15-21, Mark 6:35-44
Luke 9:12-17 - John 6:4-13.

V: 12 Jesus wants to receive them, the disciples don't know what to do so they want to send them away.

V: 13 Jesus gives them a hint, He prompts them: “*You give them something to eat.*”

- He wouldn't have told them that if it weren't somehow possible that they could.
- They had just come off of a mission trip where they had healed the sick, cleansed lepers, raised the dead and preached the Gospel – but this was just different enough to throw them.
- They look past what could be the miraculous and indicate “we've only got 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread. They are saying we don't have the resources...”

The disciples asked why they couldn't cast out a demon:

Matthew 17:20 “And Jesus said unto them, because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

V: 14-15 And look, there are 5,000 men and their families out there – perhaps as many as 20,000 people or more to feed.

- Jesus then begins to show them what is possible. First thing he had them sit down – because it's dinner time – he had them sit in groups of fifties.

Ours is a God of order:

1 Corinthians 14:33 &40 “³³For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.” – “⁴⁰Let all things be done decently and in order.”

V: 16 Jesus takes what little we have and He multiplies it!

John 6:9 “There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are thy among so many?”

- Loaves – barley bread, barley is food for livestock, poor mans bread.
- As with the water being turned to wine in Cana, the barley bread was probably the best bread anyone had ever had.
- **In between blessing & giving is *breaking*.**
- Jesus gave to His disciples; they gave to the people.

1 Corinthians 11:23 “What I have received, I have given to you.”

- Can't give what you don't have.

V: 17 “Filled” = “satisfied” – They were content, their need had been met.

The leftovers indicated that there was more than enough, everyone had their fill.

- **Isaiah 40:11** “He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.”
- **John 6:35** “And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.”
- **John 4:13** “¹³... whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: ¹⁴But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst;...”

- Our only contentment is found in Jesus, Jesus is the only One who can satisfy.
- Until we are content in Jesus Christ, we won't be content in anything.

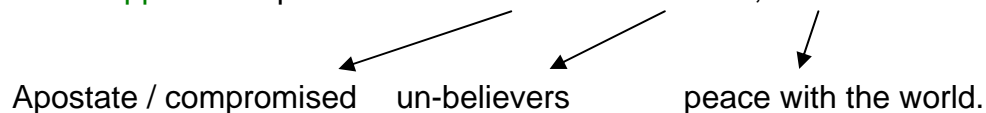
1 Timothy 6:6 “But godliness with contentment is great gain.”

V: 18 This takes place in Caesarea Philippi: Baniyas vs: “Panias”

Matthew 16:13 “When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked His disciples, saying, whom do men say that I the Son of man am?”

- The back drop for this question is in the heart of the Gentile / pagan area, many pagan temples to Caesar, Baal, Pan, etc. The question is asked in light of the many options available and visible.
 - It’s the same for us, when we choose Jesus it is always over something else.
1. Molech = god of pleasure.
 2. Baal = god of intellectual prowess
 3. Astureth = god of fertility / sexuality
 4. Mammon = god of power / possessions.
 5. Baccus = god of libation, liquor, parties.
 6. Pan = god of fields, forests, wild animals.

❖ **Caesarea Philippi** – Decapolis. Hellenistic Jews & Gentiles, ecumenism.



James 4:4 “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”

“*Who do people say that I am?*” – this is a question that people are still asking, and it’s the central question that people should be asking.

1. The Muslims think that Jesus was a prophet, just a man.
 2. The Jews think that Jesus was a good rabbi, just a man.
 3. The Mormons think that Jesus is a created being, the brother of Satan, equal in power.
 4. The Jehovah’s witnesses think Jesus is the arch angel Michael, a created being.
 5. None of them think that Jesus is God – meaning they are all wrong!
- The subject of Jesus is both controversial and divisive:
 - If you go to a public school graduation, or to a courthouse, or to the senate or congress of our country and pray to “god” – or to Buddha, of Allah, or Satan even – no one will say much – but when you pray in the name of Jesus everybody gets upset. Why? Because Jesus is the God of truth and of righteousness.

Matthew 10:32-36 ³²“Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. ³³But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven. ³⁴Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not

to send peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. ³⁶And a man's foes shall be they of his own household."

John 7:40-43 ⁴⁰Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, of a truth this is the Prophet. ⁴¹Others said, this is the Christ. But some said, shall Christ come out of Galilee? ⁴²Hath not the scripture said, that Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? ⁴³So there was a division among the people because of Him."

➤ There is division among the people because of Him to this day.

1 Peter 2:6-8 ⁶Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded. ⁷Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, ⁸and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

V: 19 The disciples give Jesus similar answers, complimentary – but short of the truth.

- Elija – forerunner to the Messiah, did miracles.
- Jeremiah – weeping, compassionate.
- Prophet(s) – good teacher, a man of God, but like the rest just a man.

V: 20 Jesus moves from generalities “who do the people say I am”, to specifics, He makes it personal – “who do you say that I am?”

- The difference between knowing about God to knowing Him personally.
- Who is Jesus to you?

Matthew 16:16 “And Simon Peter answered and said, thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

- The answer to this question was definitive to Peter, just as it is to each of us.

Jesus responded to Peter's declaration:

Matthew 16:17-18 ¹⁷And Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father which is in heaven. ¹⁸And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

1st: this is not worldly wisdom, this is the wisdom that comes from our Father above.

2nd: He got a new name, he went from Simon, the son of Jonah to Peter.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.”

- Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel, Saul to Paul.

3rd: On this rock, on this confession that Jesus is Lord, He shall build His church.

Romans 10:9-10 “⁹That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

- Everything hinges on our view of who Jesus is; if He is God then we should tremble at His word, reverence Him in a way that leads to obedience to His word.

V: 21-22 Jesus commanded them not to tell everyone – just yet, it was an issue of timing as revealed by the context of these two verses.

1st He must suffer many things.

2nd He must first be rejected by the nation as represented by the elders, chief priests, and scribes.

3rd He must be killed and rise again the 3rd day.

Acts 2:23 “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:”

- All part of God’s plan from the beginning.

V: 23 Describing a life of self-denial: We too must willingly come to the cross, just as Jesus denied Himself and suffered for us, we too must be willing to sacrifice our lives and our will.

- Deny yourself, take up His cross, and follow Jesus. Total denial of self, identifying with Jesus.

Romans 6:11-12 “¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.”

Psalms 37:4 “Delight yourself in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

- Luke adds a word that neither Matthew nor Mark includes: “*daily*” – meaning it’s a lifestyle.

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

KJV translates this verse in the present tense: all the other versions place it in the past tense.

Galatians 5:16 “This I say then: walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Romans 8:17 “And if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death,”

V: 24 God’s economy of things is radically different than ours:

Matthew 19:30 “But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.”

Isaiah 55:8-9 “⁸For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

- Jesus is talking to a group of men who would one day face martyrdom for their faith in Jesus, men who would face a choice to save their lives or to lose them.
- We need to read this and the following verses with the understanding that the men Jesus is talking to will die for their faith.

Romans 14:7-8 “⁷For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. ⁸For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord’s.”

V: 25 All the money or accomplishments in this world cannot save us – only Jesus can.

Matthew 16:26 “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

- There aren’t enough riches or pleasures in all the world to make hell worth it.

Psalm 49:6-8 “⁶They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; ⁷None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: ⁸For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever.”

John 3:36 “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

V: 26 Whoever is ashamed of Jesus, denies Jesus – and is ashamed of His word, denies His word – of that person Jesus will be ashamed when He comes back in His glory.

Matthew 10:32-33 “³²Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. ³³But whosoever shall deny Me before men, Him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven.”

2 Timothy 2:12 “If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, He also will deny us.”

V: 27 This appears to be a reference to the vision that John would see as it's described in the book of Revelation.

- The next topic in each of the synoptic Gospels is the same, it is the transfiguration, where Jesus is seen in His glory – in His kingdom.

1 John 5:11-12 “¹¹And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”

V: 28 Jesus takes Peter, John, and James to the Mount of Transfiguration, to pray.

- There are 3 times when these three men are singled out as an inner circle of sorts, separated from the rest of the Apostles & disciples for a special revelation:
 1. **Luke 8:51** Raising Jairus' daughter back to life.
 2. **Luke 9:28** The transfiguration of Jesus.
 3. **Matthew 26:37** As Jesus was praying in Gethsemane.
- Jesus demonstrating His power over life and death; then anticipating His own death; then the reality of His impending death and ultimate submission to His Father's will.
- Jesus was teaching these men a valuable lesson as revealed in Philippians 3:10.

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him, (transfiguration) and the power of His resurrection, (raising Jairus' daughter) and the power of His sufferings (Gethsemane), being made conformable unto His death.”

- Peter would later write:

2 Peter 1:16 “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.”
- Previews at the movies make you want to see the movies themselves. Here Jesus gives Peter, James, and John a preview of what is to come.
- Matthew's Gospel refers to the “high” mountain was probably Mt. Hermon.
 1. Proximity to Caesaria Phillippi / Baniyas.
 2. Highest mountain in the area.
 3. Mt. Tabor (traditional site) is too far away, past the sea of Galilee @ Nazareth, and it's not very high.

V: 29 As He prayed... it is almost as if He's been transported to heaven, to the throne room – which in a way he was.

- Luke: “Altered” (G1096) ginomai, ghin'-om-ahee; to cause to be (“gen”-erate), i.e. (reflex.) to become (come into being), to be changed.

Matthew 17:2 “And was transfigured before them: and His face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light.”

- Matthew: “Transfigured” (G-3339) “metamorphoo”, metamorphosis, transformed. Changed from the inside outward.
- As we spend time in prayer; we too are changed from the inside out – we too are transformed.

- Radiating light from within as opposed to reflecting it.
- Jesus radiated, Moses reflected.

Revelation 1:13-17 ¹³“And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. ¹⁴His head and His hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; ¹⁵and His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and His voice as the sound of many waters. ¹⁶And He had in His right hand seven stars: and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and His countenance was as the sun shineth in His strength. ¹⁷And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. And He laid His right hand upon Me, saying unto me, “fear not; I am the first and the last...””

John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

- We too can have a spiritual “transfiguration”:

Romans 12:1-2 ¹“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. ²And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

2 Corinthians 3:18 “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

- As we surrender our body, mind, and will, the Lord transforms us from within, so that we’re not conformed to the world.
- As we behold Him in the Word (glass / mirror), we are “transfigured” – changed, by the Spirit from “glory to glory”.
- This is called sanctification, the process by which we become more and more like Jesus, which is God’s desire for us.

1 John 3:2 “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doeth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.”

- And it all begins with prayer: “And as He prayed...”

V: 30 Moses & Elijah: the Law & the Prophets, both pointing to the cross.

Matthew 5:17 “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.”

Matthew 22:37-40 ³⁷Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

- Jesus came not only to fulfill the law but to do what the Law could not do.

Galatians 3:11 “But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith.”

- Moses and Elijah also represent 2 different dispensations (2-D).
 1. Moses: Those who die in faith yet live with Christ, seeing the promise from afar.
 2. Eliza: Those who would not see death, but be raptured.
- Unlike Matthew’s Gospel, Luke gives us a the content of the conversation:

V: 31 “... *and spake of His decease which **He** should accomplish at Jerusalem.*”

- The death and resurrection of Jesus was ordained of old, in both the Law and the Prophets:

Acts 2:23 “Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

- As with the raising of Jairus’ daughter, Jesus is in full control:

John 10:18 ¹⁷Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. ¹⁸No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.”

“*Decease*” (G1841). exodos, ex'-od-os; an exit, i.e. (fig.) death, decease, departing.

- **Moses** had led Israel out of bondage to Egypt; **Elijah** had delivered them from bondage to false gods, but **Jesus** would die to set a sinful world free from bondage to sin and death.

V: 32 While all this is going on – the disciples take a nap...

- The same thing would later happen in the Garden of Gethsemane:

Luke 22:45 “And when He rose up from prayer, and was come to His disciples, He found them sleeping for sorrow.”

- Flesh and blood need to be changed before we can enter into heaven.
- Our poor weak bodies can neither watch with the Lord in His time of trial nor keep awake with Him in His glorification – we must be greatly transformed before we can enjoy heaven.
- When they awoke – when they had a spiritual awakening, they could see the glory of the Lord and knew what He was doing.

1 Corinthians 13:12 “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.”

V: 33 A Moses and Elijah depart from Jesus Peter says...

- Jesus is still there, so in offering to build 3 tabernacles he’s attempting to get Moses and Elijah to stay. Jesus described John the Baptist as the greatest of the OT prophets – and he said that Jesus must increase and that he must decrease.
- If we’ve got Jesus we don’t need any one or any thing else.
- The mistake here wasn’t just to bring Jesus down to the level of Moses and Elijah; he implied that Jesus wasn’t sufficient.

Luke 9:18-20 / Matthew 16:14-16 Peter’s confession drew a significant distinction between Jesus and the prophets, as opposed to lumping them together as he does here.

Isaiah 46:5 “To whom will ye liken Me, and make me equal, and compare Me, that we may be like?”

V: 34-35 God interrupts Peter – “Sheckinah Glory”

- Again God the Father is affirming His only Son’s authority, affirming His ministry.
- Similar affirmations:

Matthew 3:16-17 “¹⁶And Jesus when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: ¹⁷and lo a

voice from heaven, saying, **this is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**”

John 12:28 “Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, **I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.**”

- God spoke to man through Moses & the Law, then through the prophets encouraging men to obey the law.
- Now God is speaking directly through His Son and saying, “listen to Him!”

Hebrews 1:1-2 “¹God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ²hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; ³who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”

Matthew 17:5-6 “⁵While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, this is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him. ⁶And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.”

When they heard God’s voice they fell on their faces and were afraid:

Isaiah 66:2 “... but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at My word.”

Isaiah 66:5 “Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at His word;...”

- This scene portrays a contrast between those who fear the Lord and those who don’t:

Proverbs 1:29-30 “²⁹For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: ³⁰They would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof.”

- This was a formative experience for Peter, he referred to this incident later in his 2nd letter:

2 Peter 1:16-18 “¹⁶For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. ¹⁷For He received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, this is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. ¹⁸And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with Him in the holy mount.”

1. On Mount Sinai the Law was given.
2. At the sermon on the mount, the Law was explained.
3. Here on the Mount of transfiguration the Law was glorified.
4. Later on the mount, called Calvary – the Law would be fulfilled.

V: 36 When these things had passed, they kept this to themselves, they didn't tell anyone. Why?

Matthew 17:7-9 “⁷And Jesus came and touched them, and said, arise, and be not afraid. ⁸And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. ⁹And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.”

- Obedience, yielding to God's timing.
- Jesus only: The experience, seeing Moses, Elijah, and the Shekinah glory – the experience, the vision faded away – and what was left? Jesus, the incarnate word of God remained.
- As wonderful as the experience was, as experiences can be – they are not the basis of our faith or the basis of a consistent Christian life, that is why God the Father said “hear Him.” Listen to the word of God, take heed to the Word of God.

Jesus only! I want that kind of focus!

Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that we set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

- We need to keep our eyes on Jesus!

Philippians 3:14 “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

V: 37-42 A father and his demon possessed son: **Matthew 17:14-18, Mark 9:17-27**

V: 37-38 Jesus, along with Peter, James, and John have all just had this mountain top experience – like us when we've had a spiritual high, and up-lifting experience, many times we're still kind of processing what we've just seen or heard when we go down that mountain and experience the trials of life, the challenges.

- Sometimes we see the glory of God on the mountain top; but the valley is where the fruit grows.

- Jesus is now approached by a man whose son is demon possessed and there are two issues:
 1. Demonic possession that will destroy the child.
 2. The inability of the disciples to drive this demon out.

Matthew 17:15 “Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is a lunatic, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.”

- Lunatic: “smitten by the moon” (Epileptic)
- Eastern culture beset by superstition: If you slept outside and the moon happened to shine on your face, it would drive you crazy.
- Sore vexed / troubled, cast into the fire, cast into water.

V: 39-40 This demon is thrashing the man’s son, and the disciples were not able to help.

Mark 9:18 “And whosoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.”

- One of the things I appreciate about this situation like many that the Bible describes is that we get to see what the situation is; that from a human perspective it is hopeless, we can do nothing, we try in various ways and that we’re allowed to see it that way – then God intervenes and demonstrates what He can do, that He might be glorified.

Matthew 19:26 “... with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

- Luke’s account doesn’t address why the disciples were not able to deliver this boy from demon possession.
- Jesus had empowered His disciples to heal the sick, raise the dead, and to drive out demons – all of which they had done.
- They had become part of an un-believing generation and had lost the confidence that they needed in order to use their power. But prayer and fasting were also lacking.

Mark 9:28-29 ²⁸And when He was come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, why could not we cast him out? ²⁹And He said unto them, this kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.”

- This may indicate that the other disciples may have allowed their devotions, or their prayer time unto the Lord to slip a little bit while He was up on the Mount.

- No matter what spiritual gifts we may have, their exercise is never automatic, we can't ever take the spiritual gifts for granted.

V: 41 All three Gospels say it the same way: “faithless” & “perverse” – “how long shall I be with you, and “suffer” you.”

- Faithless is self explanatory, there is a lack of faith, presumably on the disciples part.
- Faithless: (G 571) apistos, disbelieving, i.e. without Chr. faith (spec. a heathen); (pass.) untrustworthy (person), that believeth not, faithless, infidel, unbelieving.
- Faith, or faithlessness is the issue:

Matthew 13:58 “And He did not many mighty works there because of their un-belief.”

Perverse: (G-1294) di-astrepho: to distort, misinterpret, or corrupt:--perverse (-rt), turn away.

Webster's:

1. to lead astray morally.
2. to turn away from the right course.
3. to lead into mental error or false judgment.
4. to turn to an improper use.
5. to misconstrue or misinterpret, esp. deliberately; distort.
6. to bring to a less excellent state; debase.

1 Corinthians 1:9 “God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.”

- Our faith waivers but His faith is constant and strong!
- What is the remedy? “... bring him unto Me.” Take them to Jesus!

V: 42 As the boy was being brought to Jesus, the demon tries to prevent that, throwing him down, causing him to convulse and spasm.

Turn to Mark chapter 9:

Mark 9:20 “And they brought him unto Him: and when he saw him straightway the spirit tare him, and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.”

- Mark fills in more of the conversation:

Mark 9:21-22 ²¹And He asked his father, how long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, of a child. ²²And oftentimes it hath cast

him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.”

- Jesus knows the answers, He’s just clarifying for everyone present.
- Casting him into the fire or into the waters – to destroy him.

In rebuking the Pharisees, Jesus gives us insights about the enemy:

John 8:44a “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning,..”

1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

- He doesn’t just ask for compassion upon his son – he asks for compassion for “us” – he is suffering right along with his son.
- Jesus then addresses the issue of faith directly with the father of the boy:

Mark 9:23-24 ²³Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. ²⁴And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”

- This issue of faith was dealt with first.
- Jesus didn’t heal first, then talk about faith.

This man faced the truth:

Psalms 51:6 “Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.”

This man was broken:

Psalms 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”

Mark 9:25-27 ²⁵When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, “thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. ²⁶And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, he is dead. ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.”

- Jesus saw the people coming – running, not wanting to make a spectacle.
- Jesus rebukes the evil spirit, commanded the spirit to come out of him, never to return.
- It got worse before it got better!
- The introduction of God’s word initially brought pain, but eventually it brought deliverance.

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

John 8:31-32 “If ye continue in My word, ye are My disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

- Ultimately it was the spoken word of God that delivered this young man, and it was the personal touch of our Lord Jesus that lifted him up and restored him.
- When things are getting kind of crazy, when you feel like you are either drowning in the issues of life, or you’re getting burned – reach for His hand, incline your ear for His word – and He will set you straight.

[Back to Luke chapter 9.](#)

V: 43-45 They were amazed at the mighty power, the majesty of God:

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

- While they were amazed, considering all the things that Jesus had been doing He tells them:
- Jesus is re-directing their thoughts from the miracles, the experiences, to His Word.
- Let these sayings sink down into your ears: these sayings, these teachings, the spoken word of God – hear that, let it sink into your ears.

[He is still dealing with the issue of faith:](#)

Romans 10:17 “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

“... *for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.*”

- Because your faith is going to be tested, because He won’t always be right there – they will need to rely on His word, rely on what He told them.
- They didn’t get it, it was withheld from them until after His death and resurrection.
- It is funny how many of the issues we deal with only make sense in light of the cross!

Luke 24:44-45 “⁴⁴And He said unto them, these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me. ⁴⁵Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.”

- In speaking of what He would endure, Jesus is also pointing toward that ultimate victory – ultimately Satan and his demons were defeated at the cross – that is where all of us were delivered from the power of sin and death – these things and their representatives no longer have power over us!

V: 46-48 Who's the greatest? Then, just as today, there are always those disputes about who's the greatest, about hierarchy, and position within ministry – church politics.

- Jesus turns all their aspirations upside down – unless you're like this child.

Matthew 19:30 “But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.”

Matthew 18:3 “... verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

- Painfully honest, sincere, sensitive / perceptive, simple faith, trusting.

Psalms 131:1-2 “¹Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. ²Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child.”

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 “²⁶For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: ²⁷But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;”

Paul hits the bottom line:

Philippians 2:3 “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves.”

- Our ministry is just to serve, God will appoint who He wants to be in charge or give direction.

Psalms 75:6-7 “⁶For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. ⁷But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and sitteth up another.”

V: 49 John assumed that because this other person wasn't part of their company, that he didn't have or shouldn't use Jesus' authority – yet he was doing the work of the ministry.

- This unknown man had faith in Jesus, and was doing that which the disciples had most recently been unable to do – driving out demons.

1 Kings 19:14, 18 ¹⁴“And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.” – ¹⁸“Yet I have left Me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.”

- Sectarianism: narrow-minded devotion to a particular sect, esp. in religion, in which case it is called denominationalism:

Moses gathered the 70 elders for a meeting:

Numbers 11:26-29 ²⁶“But there remained two of the men of the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other was Medad: and the Spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp. ²⁸And Joshua the son of Num, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, my lord Moses, forbid them. ²⁹And Moses said unto him, enviest thou for my sake? Would God that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!”

Parallel passage:

Mark 9:38-39 ³⁸“And John answered Him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. ³⁹But Jesus said, forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in My name, that can lightly speak evil of Me.”

- What is this man doing?
 1. Casting out demons. = Good.
 2. In the name of Jesus. = Good!
 3. He wasn’t one of us... so we forbid him. (from doing good in the name of Jesus...)
- There is a danger here that the disciples would be like the Pharisees, not examining what is actually happening here and how it is happening – blinded by sectarianism.
- This man discovered something: There is power in the name of Jesus!

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

Philippians 2:9-11 ⁹“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and the things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

V: 50 Jesus makes the correction – *“forbid him not...”*

- No man can do a miracle in Jesus’ name without Jesus being a part of it.
- No man doing such things would speak evil of Jesus.
- There is no neutral position, we are on one side or the other.

Matthew 12:30 “He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad. (Works against Me.)

- None of us, no denomination, or church has cornered the market on God, if God is working through another ministry – then God bless them! If people are coming to Christ and God is being honored, His word is being taught, then we should rejoice!
- Basically if it is being done for the Love of Jesus – it counts.

1 Corinthians 15:58 “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

V: 51 When the time was come – not a matter of chance, a matter of God’s perfect timing: “He should be received up.”

- Looking past His suffering to when He would be received up into Heaven after His resurrection.

Matthew 20:18-19 ¹⁸Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn Him to death, ¹⁹and shall deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify Him: and the third day He shall rise again.”

- Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem for a purpose, His purpose.

V: 52-53 Jesus sent messengers ahead of Him to a village of the Samaritans to make ready for Him, to prepare a place to stay the night and prepare a meal, but they didn’t receive Him, because He was headed from there to Jerusalem.

- There was always contention and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans.
- When Jesus spoke to the woman at the well earlier in Samaria: When Jesus asked her for a drink of a water.

John 4:9 “Then saith the woman of Samaria unto Him, how is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.”

V: 54 The disciples refer to Elijah who called fire down from heaven upon 2 groups of 50 soldiers and their respective captains – when evil king Ahaz sought to apprehend the prophet by force.

- Perhaps James and John thought they'd earn some brownie points for their zeal wanting to turn the Samaritans into French fries because of their unwillingness to receive Jesus.

V: 55-56 Jesus “rebuked” the disciples – a stern response to their suggestion, they should have known that this would be contrary to His purpose – what had they learned about turning the other cheek?

- This is where it is thought that they earn the nick name “sons of Boanerges” – “sons of thunder.”

“... you know not of what manner of spirit ye are of...”

1. You're ignorant.
2. The Devil is the destroyer, he's the one who condemns – destroying them would be doing his work.
3. The Son of Man is come to save, not to destroy.

John 3:17 “For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.”

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

- Acts Chapter 8 describes how the Gospel came to Samaria, how the Spirit was poured out, and lives changed and saved.
- So they went to another village where He was received.

V: 57-58 This person (Scribe / Matthew) has somewhat of an emotional response to Jesus, perhaps caught up in the moment – flying high spiritually – and strangely Jesus doesn't encourage him, His response isn't “right on, let's go.”

- Before we begin to feel sorry for Jesus; He's not bemoaning His situation – oh poor me..., what He is saying is that He is free to do the Father's will, that He's not tied down or constrained – He can move about freely and do the Father's will.
- Jesus essentially tells him to consider his decision and to count the cost before he makes a commitment.

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

- Placing our lives on the altar, or taking up His cross is not a casual decision; it is to be carefully considered.

Luke 14:28-30 ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? ²⁹Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, this man began to build, and was not able to finish.”

V: 59-60 The first guy came to Jesus and initiated his offer to follow Jesus, this 2nd person is different – Jesus initiates, Jesus call him out and says “follow me”

- More than likely his father wasn't dead yet; they bury their dead on the same day. This was a cultural aspect to bury father, meaning wait until he died, which could be some time.

Matthew 10:37 “He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”

James 1:8 “A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

- He may have been saying “when I get my inheritance” / or the modern equivalent of “when I retire” then I can serve you.
- These last two men represent two extremes:
 1. The scribe who had not thought it through enough, making an emotional decision.
 2. The one who would bury his father who had thought it through too much, trying to figure it all the way out, reliant on provision he can see as opposed to walking in faith.
- Abraham tarried with his father Terah in **Genesis 12**, then after his father died he went to the land of Canaan, obeying the Word of God.
- Choices: Riches, relationships, or Jesus.

Matthew 6:24, 33 ²⁴No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

³³But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

V: 61 This 3rd person is a combination of the previous two, – delaying doing the Lord's will, something else to do first, "me first." Jesus is looking for a total commitment.

Matthew 10:37 "He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."

Luke 14:26-27 ²⁶"If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after Me, cannot be My disciple."

V: 62 Jesus responds to all three would be disciples.

- No man can plow in a straight line, do a good job if he is looking over his shoulder or looking back – particularly at the old life.

Philippians 3:13-14 ¹³"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, ¹⁴I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

- "*Fit for the kingdom of God.*" – does not refer to "salvation" as opposed to ministry and service.
- Our fitness for entering into the kingdom is in the Person and work of the Lord Jesus, our salvation is our through faith in Him.

Hebrews 10:38-39 ³⁸"Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."