

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: A Glorious Sneak Peak

Passage: Luke 9:20-36 (ESV)

Illustration: Movie trailers & exclusive sneak peaks

Need: The sneak peak at Messiah's dazzling glory in route to the cross is a powerful reminder that so much more is yet to come for those who follow obediently.

I. God's Kingdom is the major focus (9:20-29)

- Luke mentions the Kingdom of God 41 times in his gospel.
- God IS the ruler of the universe. However, His Kingdom involves His direct reign over humanity through His anointed representative King - Messiah, Christ, Jesus.
- In the NT God's Kingdom can mean 3 different things depending on context: (1) God's reign; (2) the realm of spiritual blessings now; (3) future realm when God's reign will be fully realized/experienced.
- In this scene, Jesus' future kingdom glory is revealed. Matt & Mark (*metamorphoō*) transfigured.

II. It always been leading to this (9:30-31)

- Moses stands as the representative of Israel's exodus from Egypt and the human agent of God's law.
- Elijah stands as the archetypical prophet, representative of God's judgment and forerunner of the Kingdom Age to Come.
- Together they represent the Law & the Prophets of the OT
- They both also had unusual departures from this life (Deut. 32 & 2 Kings 2).
- They were talking to Jesus regarding His departure (Grk. *exodus*), His death, resurrection, & ascension.

III. Peter, please just hush (9:32-35)

- After awaking from deep sleep the 3 disciples are amazed (terrified Mark 9:6) at what they saw.
- Peter makes the correct theological connection to the OT Feast of Tabernacles but offers a foolish and selfish response to this special revelation.
- The presence of God surrounds the five and God the Father rebukes Peter's suggestion by focussing their attention back on Jesus alone (see Luke 3:22).

IV. A subject for another day (9:36)

- Matthew & Mark - Jesus instructed these men not to discuss what they saw until after His resurrection.
- **John 1:14**
- **2 Peter 1:16-18**

V. Lessons for the church:

- Glory and redemption through suffering IS the eternal, paradoxical plan of God. It's NOT plan B.
- What we are witnessing in the life of Jesus Christ IS the fulfilling of all God's promises to/through Israel.
- The sneak peak of Jesus glorified should be a strong reminder that there's more to come. Press On!!!
- Hear the voice of God to you; "Don't be distracted by anything or anyone else. Don't rely on your own reasoning or understanding. Focus on, listen to, follow & obey Jesus ONLY!"