

the theme of angels, prophets, apostles, and men everywhere redeemed by His blood.

(b). When the cloud overshadowed them they hear a voice out of the cloud. It was the voice of God, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him." Once before had this voice come, at the time of the baptism in the Jordan. Once again it will sound forth when the Greeks are come seeking Jesus, and when he desires to be glorified. This voice would give them the assurance that He who called Himself the Son of Man, was also the Son of God. They would feel sure of His divinity. John afterwards said, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." This voice urged them to hear the words of this Son of God. Hear the words of Moses and Elijah, yes! but only as an echo of His words. Hear ye Him; afterwards they would cherish and store up in their minds the truths and commandments He gave them.

(c). After the cloud had passed away they see no man save Jesus only. They hear no more the voices of Moses and Elias, or the majesty of the voice of testimony. They are sore afraid and amazed by what they see and hear. Now they hear the tender accents of Jesus as He says, "Arise and be not afraid." This is a voice of comfort and assurance. They were mystified by the words of Moses and Elias, terrified by the voice out of the cloud. They could have said like the people of old, "Let not God speak to us lest we die." Now God speaks to them through His Son. His message is one of tenderness and love. "Arise and be not afraid." At the sound of that voice fear fled away. "Fear not," was the message given by the angels to the shepherds. "Fear not," was the message given to those waiting by the tomb with sorrowful hearts. "Fear not" is the word of the ascended Saviour to-day to all His disciples. "The bruised reed He will not break, the smoking flax He will not quench."