

life is weak because there are so many things hiding Him. Looking unto Jesus is the apostolic injunction. Some people make the Bible their Christ; there is a species of Bibliolatry abroad. We see not the book but "Jesus only" in the book. In some churches He is hidden behind vestments and altars and outward ceremonial. These may be useful in helping the devotion of some, but by faith we see behind these, and they fade away and Jesus Himself dawns on the view. Anything which hides Him is a hindrance. At the Lord's table, not the bread and wine, not the words of Christ, not our faith or feelings in Him, but Jesus only.

There is a story told of an artist who painted a picture of the disciples and their Master, sitting around the table. For months he painted with the greatest care, and at length the work was finished. When the painting was submitted to a friend for criticism, at once his mind was taken up with a cup in the foreground. The artist in anger quickly blotted it out with his brush, because he saw it took up the attention which ought to have been bestowed on the central figure. Thus we should remove whatever hides Him, or draws our eyes from Him; laying aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, looking unto Jesus.

2. Having thus noticed what the disciples saw in this transfiguration scene, let us now listen to what they heard. Not only were their eyes blessed in seeing, but also their ears in hearing. The impression made on the mind through the sense of sight is deep and lasting. We have seen sights the memory of which will haunt us until death; again, we have seen visions which will cling to us for ever as tender memories, to cheer us on our way. We can say the same regarding words which we have heard; some of them with frightful echoes still ringing in our ears; others sweet and calm, blessing us as in the silence they come floating back again. These disciples seemed not to forget the sight on the Holy Mount; we are sure it is no exaggeration to say that what they then heard ever remained with them.