

LESSON V.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

July 29, 1900

Luke 9: 28-36. Commit to memory vs. 33-35. Compare Matt. 17: 1-13. Read Mark 8: 31 to 9: 23.

28 And it came to pass about ¹an eight days after these sayings, he took ²Pe'ter and John and James, and went up into ³a mountain to pray.

29 And as he ⁴prayed, the fashion ⁵of his countenance was altered, and his raiment ⁶was white and glistening.

30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Mo'ses and ⁷Eli'as:

31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his ⁸descent which he ⁹should accomplish at Jeru'salem.

32 ¹⁰But Pe'ter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: ¹¹and when they were ¹²awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

Revised Version—¹Omit an; ²With him; ³The; ⁴Was praying; ⁵Became; ⁶Dazzling; ⁷Elijah; ⁸Margin, departure; ⁹Was about to; ¹⁰Now; ¹¹But; ¹²Fully, *Margin*, having remained awake; ¹³Were parting; ¹⁴*Margin*, booths; ¹⁵And while he said these things; ¹⁶A voice came; ¹⁷My Son, my chosen; ¹⁸Ye; ¹⁹Came; ²⁰Held their peace; ²¹The.

GOLDEN TEXT

This is my beloved Son: hear him. Luke 9: 35.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Luke 9: 28-36. The Transfiguration.

T.—Luke 22: 39-46. Sleeping disciples.

W.—John 12: 23-33. A voice from heaven.

Th.—Rev. 1: 8-18. Glory of Christ. F.—Exodus 34: 27-35. The shining face.

S.—Mark 1: 1-11. The beloved Son. S.—2 Peter 1: 16-21. Peter's remembrance.

TIME AND PLACE

A week after last lesson. Autumn of A.D. 29. Probably Mount Hermon or one of its spurs, Jesus and His disciples being in the borders of Cesarea Philippi. (Matt. 16: 13.)

CATECHISM

Q. 32 What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life?

A. They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification, adoption, and sanctification, and the several benefits which, in this life, do either accompany or flow from them.

LESSON PLAN

I. Heavenly Glory. 28, 29.

Jesus being transfigured in the presence of three chosen disciples.

II. Heavenly Company. 30-32.

Moses and Elias also in glory talking with Him.

III. Heavenly Testimony. 33-36.

To Jesus as the beloved Son of God.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise—16 (Ps. Sel.); 360; 302; 67; 391.

EXPOSITION

See Lesson I
Connecting Links—The conversation recorded in our last Lesson doubtless depressed the disciples in spirit. The thought of their Master's death would fill them with dismay; and the week following, over which the Evangelists have drawn the veil of silence, was doubtless a week of saddest disappointment. They needed a revelation such as was given in the Transfiguration, to strengthen their faith, so that in the light of His glory they might understand something, at least, of the meaning of the cross.

I. Heavenly Glory, 28, 29.

V. 28. *About an eight days.* Matthew (17: 1) and Mark (9: 2) say six days. Luke probably counts the parts of days before and after the six days. The others count the entire days only. *These sayings*; concerning His death, and concerning cross-bearing by the disciples, as in last Lesson. The Transfiguration is, therefore, closely connected with the confession of the disciples and with Christ's sayings as to His sufferings

and death. *Peter and John and James*; the advanced scholars in Christ's school. They were the nearest to Him in spiritual insight, and were thus the most ready to understand the vision. (See Mark 5: 37; Matt. 26: 37.) The rest of the disciples were left at the base of the mountain (vs. 37, 40.) *The mountain*; Matthew and Mark, "a high mountain apart." Most likely one of the spurs of Hermon (Hermon reached at its summit, 10,000 feet); not Mount Tabor, as tradition says, which was an inhabited and fortified place. *To pray.* It was Jesus' custom to approach the great crises of life through prayer. (See Matt. 14: 23; Luke 6: 12; 9: 18; 22: 41.)

V. 29. *And as He prayed*; during His prayer, and as the result of His prayer. *The fashion . . . altered*; not in shape, but in appearance. His face was radiant with the glory of God. It "did shine as the sun." (Matt. 17: 2.) *His raiment was white.* The Divine in Him, now manifested, made His