

Time Audit Chronicles: The Transfiguration – A Glimpse of Divine Glory

(Matthew 17:1-13)

Prologue: A Glimpse Beyond the Ordinary

The Presswood family was having a quiet evening under the stars in their backyard. Ryan had set up the telescope, and Ariel was carefully adjusting the focus to see a distant constellation. Alice sat beside her with Mr. Fluffernutter, holding a flashlight as if he were an astronaut exploring the heavens.

“Daddy,” Ariel asked, peering through the lens, “do you think Jesus ever showed His disciples something so amazing that they couldn’t believe their eyes?”

Ryan smiled. “He did. Once, He took Peter, James, and John up a mountain and showed them His glory—who He truly is as the Son of God. It was a moment they’d never forget.”

“His glory?” Alice asked, hugging Mr. Fluffernutter tightly. “What does that look like?”

“It’s hard to describe,” Ryan said. “Let’s use the Time Audit Machine to witness it for ourselves. We’ll climb the mountain with the disciples and see Jesus as they did.”

The Journey Begins: A Trip to the Mountain

The Time Audit Machine hummed to life as Ariel programmed the coordinates.

“Destination: Mount of Transfiguration, 27-29 CE. Objective: witness Jesus reveal His divine glory to Peter, James, and John.”

With a flash of light, the family found themselves at the base of a high mountain. The air was crisp and cool, and the sky above was dotted with stars.

“There they are,” Ryan whispered, pointing to Jesus and the three disciples climbing the rocky path ahead. “Let’s follow them up the mountain.”

The Transfiguration *(Matthew 17:1-2)*

As the group reached the summit, Jesus stepped aside and began to pray. The disciples, tired from the climb, rested nearby.

Suddenly, Jesus’ appearance changed before their eyes. His face shone like the sun, radiating light so bright that it illuminated the entire mountaintop. His clothing became dazzling white, gleaming with a purity that seemed otherworldly.

Alice’s eyes widened. “He’s glowing! It’s like He’s a star!”

“That’s His divine glory,” Ryan said softly. “For a moment, the disciples are seeing Jesus as He truly is—the Son of God in His majesty.”

Moses and Elijah Appear (*Matthew 17:3*)

As the family watched, two figures appeared beside Jesus, their presence powerful and commanding.

“It’s Moses and Elijah!” Ariel whispered, scribbling in her notebook.

“Why them?” Alice asked.

“They represent the Law and the Prophets,” Ryan explained. “Moses gave the Law to God’s people, and Elijah was one of the greatest prophets. Their presence shows that everything in the Old Testament points to Jesus.”

The disciples looked on in awe as Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah, their conversation deep and profound.

Peter’s Response (*Matthew 17:4*)

Overwhelmed by the sight, Peter spoke up, his voice trembling with excitement:

“Lord, it is good for us to be here: if Thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for Thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.”

Ariel frowned. “Why did Peter want to build shelters?”

“He wanted to honor them,” Ryan explained. “But Peter didn’t fully understand yet—Jesus wasn’t just another great figure like Moses or Elijah. He’s the Son of God, above them all.”

The Voice from Heaven (*Matthew 17:5-8*)

As Peter was speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed the mountain, and a voice thundered from the cloud:

“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.”

The disciples fell to the ground, terrified by the power of the voice.

“That’s God speaking!” Alice whispered, clutching Mr. Fluffernutter.

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “God was confirming that Jesus is His Son and that we’re to listen to Him above all else.”

Jesus approached the disciples, gently touching their shoulders. “Arise, and be not afraid,” He said. When they looked up, the glory was gone, and Jesus stood alone.

The Descent from the Mountain (*Matthew 17:9-13*)

As the group descended the mountain, Jesus instructed the disciples:

“Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.”

“Why couldn’t they tell anyone yet?” Ariel asked.

“Because people wouldn’t understand,” Ryan said. “The transfiguration was a glimpse of Jesus’ glory, but His mission wasn’t complete yet. The full picture would only make sense after His resurrection.”

The disciples then asked Jesus about Elijah, referring to a prophecy that Elijah must come before the Messiah.

Jesus explained, “Elias is come already, and they knew him not.” (Matthew 17:12)

Ariel paused. “Who was He talking about?”

“John the Baptist,” Ryan said. “He came in the spirit and power of Elijah, preparing the way for Jesus.”

The disciples nodded, their understanding deepening as they reflected on what they had witnessed.

Returning Home: A Glimpse of Glory

Back in the garage, the Time Audit Machine powered down, and the family sat quietly, awestruck by what they had seen. Ariel flipped through her notes, while Alice adjusted Mr. Fluffernutter’s imaginary “glowing robes.”

“Seeing Jesus like that must have changed everything for them,” Ariel said. “How could they ever doubt after seeing His glory?”

“It strengthened their faith for the challenges ahead,” Ryan said. “The transfiguration was a reminder that Jesus is the Son of God—fully divine, yet walking among us.”

Alice looked up. “Do you think we’ll see His glory someday?”

“We will,” Ryan said, smiling. “When we’re with Him in heaven, we’ll see Him in all His glory, just like they did on the mountain.”

Reflection: Seeing Jesus for Who He Is

That evening, Ariel read aloud from Matthew 17:

““This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.””

The family sat quietly, reflecting on the awe-inspiring moment they had witnessed.

“The transfiguration wasn’t just about showing His glory,” Ryan said. “It was about revealing who Jesus truly is and reminding us to listen to Him above all else.”

“And when we see Him,” Ariel added, “it changes how we live.”

Alice hugged Mr. Fluffernutter tightly. “I think Jesus is the most beautiful King ever.”

“And the most glorious,” Ryan said with a grin.

Takeaway: A Glimpse of the Kingdom

The transfiguration in Matthew 17:1-13 is a powerful revelation of Jesus’ divine nature, showing His glory and His fulfillment of God’s promises. By appearing with Moses and Elijah and receiving confirmation from the Father, Jesus demonstrated that He is the ultimate fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. This moment invites us to see Him for who He truly is—the Son of God—and to live in faith, trusting that one day we will see His glory fully revealed.