

“I Believe; Help Me”

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 29

Scripture text – Mark 9:9-29

Introduction

- A “mountaintop experience” is an experience marked by exceptional _____ & _____. They are gifts of _____.
- Unfortunately, we can’t stay there _____; what goes up must come down.
- After their mountaintop experience, the disciples walked right into a _____.

Coming Down the Mountain

- Seeing Elijah made the disciples think of Malachi’s prophecy.
- “*Day of the LORD*” is a phrase used repeatedly in the Bible. It refers to a dramatic & often sudden _____ by God in human history for the purpose of defeating his enemies and-or defending his people. Throughout history, there have been several of these.
- However, the prophets taught there will also be a _____ & _____ *Day of the LORD*.
- Matthew explains that when Jesus said “Elijah has come,” he was referring to _____.
- Even so, Elijah could well be one of the two _____ described in Revelation 11.

At the Bottom of the Mountain

- At the bottom of the mountain, Jesus has _____ encounters:
 - 1) With the _____;
 - 2) With the boys’ _____; and
 - 3) With his _____

Belief & Doubt

- The father’s statement (9:24) has resonated with millions of _____ throughout the ages.
- 3 observations:

- 1) The father wasn't making an illogical or _____ statement.
 - Christopher Marshall: "*There is within every believer a _____ between faith and unfaith.*"
- 2) The father tethered what little faith he had to _____ and pleaded for his help.
 - The key isn't so much the _____ of faith, but having the right _____.
- 3) At the same time, Jesus encouraged the father toward _____ faith.
 - Dwight Moody – 3 kinds of faith: (a) _____ faith; (b) _____ faith; and (c) _____ faith.

A Humiliating Failure

- Jesus didn't let them off the _____; they should have been able to handle this.
- It's not that they forgot to pray, rather, they presumed to be able to help this boy on their _____. Not praying was simply the outward manifestation of an inward _____.
- We don't want to be a church of highly-skilled, self-confident individuals. We want to be a church on its _____.