

Message Three

The Kingdom of God as the Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus

Scripture Reading: Mark 9:1-13

- I. **The kingdom of God is the transfiguration of the Lord Jesus—Mark 9:1-2.**
- II. **What is described in Mark 9:1-13 is a picture of the kingdom of God coming in power; the center of this picture is the glorified Jesus, and with Him are Moses and Elijah, representing the Old Testament saints, and Peter, James, and John, representing the New Testament saints—vv. 2-4.**
- III. **For the Lord Jesus to be transfigured meant that His humanity was saturated and permeated with His divinity; this transfiguration, which was His glorification, was equal to His coming in His kingdom—v. 2:**
 - A. The Lord's word in verse 1 about the coming of the kingdom of God in power was fulfilled by His transfiguration on the mountain—vv. 2-3.
 - B. The transfiguration, the shining, of the Lord Jesus was His coming in His kingdom; where His transfiguration is, there is the coming of the kingdom—Mark 9:1-4; Luke 9:27-31:
 1. For the Lord Jesus to be transfigured meant that His humanity was saturated and permeated with His divinity; this transfiguration, which was His glorification, was equal to His coming in His kingdom—Mark 9:2.
 2. The transfiguration of the Lord Jesus was the realization of what He is.
 - C. The kingdom is the shining of the reality of the Lord Jesus; to be under His shining is to be in the kingdom—Rev. 22:4-5.
- IV. **Christ has been sown into our hearts as a seed; this seed will grow and develop until it blossoms and is manifested in glory—Mark 4:26-29; Col. 3:3-4:**
 - A. In Mark 9 we see the transfiguration of Christ as the seed sown in Mark 4.
 - B. The One whom we have received as the seed of the kingdom of God needs to grow in us until He blossoms from within us; this blossoming will be the transfiguration of the Lord in us in a practical, experiential way—Col.1:27.
 - C. When Christ is transfigured within us, that transfiguration becomes the kingdom of God ruling over everything in our life—v. 13.

- D. The church as the kingdom of God cannot exist in the natural life but can exist only in this realm of transfiguration—Mark 8:35-36; 9:1-2; Matt. 16:25-27.
- E. At the time of the manifestation of the kingdom, our humanity will be glorified by the glorious divinity within us—Col. 1:27:
1. In one sense, the Lord will come back from heaven, but in another sense, He will come out from within us. Phil. 3:20-21.
 2. When Christ fully lives Himself out of us, that will be the time of His coming—Matt. 16:27; 2 Thes. 1:10; Col. 1:27; 3:4.
 3. In the millennium the overcoming believers will be with Christ in the bright glory of the kingdom—Matt. 13:43a.