

Elijah Has Come

Mark 9:2-13

by Don Falkos

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Jesus took Peter, James, and John and went up on a mountain. There he was transformed before their eyes. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone could possibly bleach them. Suddenly Moses and the prophet Elijah appeared and were talking with Jesus.

Peter blurted out, "Teacher, it's wonderful for us to be here! We should build three shelters – one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He was babbling; he didn't know what to say; they were all so frightened.

Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them. A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my son, whom I love. Listen to him."

Suddenly, Peter, James, and John could see that Jesus was the only one still standing there, Moses and Elijah had gone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus said, "Don't tell anyone what you just saw until the Son of Man has risen from the dead." They kept it to themselves, but they often discussed what Jesus may have meant when he talked about "rising from the dead."

Then they asked Jesus, "Why do the experts in the Law say that Elijah must come before the Messiah?"

Jesus replied, "Elijah does come first to set everything in order. But what do the scriptures say about the Son of Man? They say that he must suffer and be rejected. You see, Elijah has come, and he was badly mistreated, just as the scriptures predicted."