

MATTHEW 17

NLET

JESUS IS TRANSFORMED AND HONORED ON A MOUNTAIN

1 And, after days – *that is*, six days – the Jesus takes along the Peter, and Jacob, and John, the brother *that* is his; and, He brings them to a mountain – *that is*, a high one – in private.

2 And, He was transformed in front of them.

And, the face *that* is His shone as the Sun.

Now, the outer garments *that were* His came to be¹ white as light.

3 And, look! Moses² and Elijah were seen³ by them speaking together⁴ with Him.

4 Now, having responded, the Peter said to the Jesus, “Lord, *it* is an honor that we are here!

If You wish, we shall make⁵ here three tents –

- for You one, and
- for Moses⁶ one, and
- one for Elijah⁷.”

5 While he was still speaking, look! A cloud – a bright, shining one – overshadowed them.

And, look! A voice from the cloud, saying, “This is –

- the Son *that is* Mine,
- the Beloved One,
- with Whom I am well-pleased!

To HIM keep on listening⁸!”

¹ ‘became’ - 60% of the Greek manuscripts, have a plural verb to match the plural subject here. Strangely, both the best line of transmission (f35) and the NU have a singular verb here.

² 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the spelling ‘Moses’ here instead of ‘Mo-ouses’.

³ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘were seen’ (a plural passive verb) here instead of ‘was seen’ (a singular passive verb). Note that the subject is plural.

⁴ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order ‘with Him speaking together’ here instead of ‘speaking together with Him’. However, since English typically places modifiers after the associated participle, so as to prevent confusion the phrase is translated as you see.

⁵ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘we shall make’ here. On the basis of three manuscripts (X, B and C) the NU has ‘I shall make’.

⁶ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the spelling ‘Moses’ here. On the basis of 2% the NU has ‘Mo-ouses’.

⁷ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order ‘one for Elijah’ here instead of ‘for Elijah one’.

6 And, having heard *this*, the disciples fell upon a face *that was each of* theirs. And, they were exceedingly seized with fear.

7 And, having gone to *them*, the Jesus grasped them. And,⁹ He said, “Arouse yourselves; and, stop being frightened.”

8 Now, having raised the eyes *that were* theirs, they saw no one except the¹⁰ Jesus only.

9 And, while they were coming down from the mountain, the Jesus enjoined them, saying, “Tell the sight to no one, until the Son of the Man from among dead ones should rise up.¹¹

JESUS EXPLAINS THAT THE ELIJAH-LIKE PERSON

IN MALACHI 4:5 IS JOHN THE BAPTIST

10 And, the disciples *that were* His¹², questioned Him, saying, “So then, why are the Scribes saying that it is necessary the Elijah come first¹³?”

11 Now, the Jesus¹⁴, having reponded, said to them¹⁵, “On the one hand, as *the Scribes* say, ‘Elijah comes first¹⁶. And, he shall restore all *things*.’

12 On the other hand, I say to you that Elijah has already come! And, they did not recognize him. Rather, they did in connection with him whatever they wished.

In this way also, the Son of the Man is about to suffer by agency of them.”

13 Then the disciples understood that concerning John the Baptist He spoke to them.

⁸ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order ‘To HIM keep on listening’ here instead of ‘Keep on listening to Him’.

⁹ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘having gone to *them*, the Jesus grasped them. And,...’ here. On the basis of 0.5% the NU has ‘the Jesus came to them. And, having grasped them,...’.

¹⁰ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the definite article ‘the’ here. On the basis of 0.5% the NU has ‘Him’ instead.

¹¹ 99.8% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘should rise up’ here. On the basis of 0.5% the NU has a different verb with a similar meaning ‘should arise’ instead.

¹² 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the possessive pronoun translated as ‘that were His’ here.

¹³ According to Malachi 4:5

¹⁴ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the name ‘Jesus’ here.

¹⁵ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the dative pronoun translated as ‘to them’ here.

¹⁶ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the adverb ‘first’ here.

JESUS HANDLES

AN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CASE OF DEMON POSSESSION
AND ADDRESSES WHY HIS DISCIPLES FAILED TO HANDLE IT

14 And, after they had come to the throng, a man approached Him, falling on *his* knees 15 and saying, “Lord, have mercy on the son *that is* MINE! Because, he has been moonstruck; and, he suffers badly. For, many times he falls into the fire; and, many times *he* falls into the water.

16 And, I brought him to the disciple *that are* your. And, they were not enabled to heal him.”

17 Now, responding, the Jesus said, “O generation – faithless and having been lastingly perverted! Until when shall I be with you¹⁷? Until when shall I prop you up?!

Be carrying him to Me here.”

18 And, the Jesus rebuked it. And, the *demon* came out from him. And, the child was healed¹⁸ after the hour – *that is*, that *hour*.

19 Then, having come forward, the disciples said to the Jesus in private, “On account of what *reason* were we, *for our part*, not enabled to drive it out?”

20 Now, the Jesus¹⁹ said²⁰ to them, “On account of the unbelief²¹ *that is* yours.

Assuredly I say to you: if ever you might have faith as a seed of mustard, you shall say to the mountain – *that is*, this *one*, ‘Pass over from there *to* there’; and, it shall pass over.

And, nothing shall be impossible for you!

21 Now, this – *that is*, the kind of *demon* – does not come out, except in connection with prayer and fasting.”

22

¹⁷ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order ‘shall I be with you’ here instead of ‘with you shall I be’.

¹⁸ 20% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have a different Greek verb from the NU here, but both verbs mean ‘was healed’.

¹⁹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the name ‘Jesus’ here.

²⁰ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘said’ (an aorist verb) here instead of ‘says’ (a present tense verb).

²¹ 98.3% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘unbelief’ here instead of ‘littleness of faith’.

²² 99.4% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include verse 21. On the basis of two manuscripts (X, and B) the NU omits this important verse entirely.

²³ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘while they were returning’ here.. On the

JESUS AGAIN PROPHESES WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HIM

22 Now, while they were returning,²³ in the *region of* Galilee the Jesus said to them,

➤ “The Son of the Man is about to be handed over into the hands of men.

➤ 23 And, they shall condemn Him to death.

➤ And, on the third day, He shall be raised.”

And, they were grieved exceedingly.

JESUS PAYS THE TWO DRACHMA TAX

24 Now, when they had come into Capernaum²⁴, the ones who were exacting the Two-drachma Taxes²⁵ approached the Peter. And, they said, “Does the teacher *that is* yours not pay in full the Two-drachma Taxes?”

25 He says, “Yes.”

And, when he entered²⁶ into the House, the Jesus anticipated him, saying, “What to you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the Earth take tolls or taxes? From the sons *that are* theirs; or, from the others?”

26 The Peter says to Him²⁷, “From the others.”

The Jesus was saying to him, “So then, at least the sons are free *from* taxation.

27 But now, in order that we might not catch them in a deathtrap, having gone to the²⁸ Sea, cast a fish-hook. And, take the first fish coming up. And, having opened the mouth *that is* its, you shall find a stater²⁹. Having taken that, give *it* to them for Me and you.”

basis of two manuscripts (X, and B) the NU has ‘while they were gathering together’.

²⁴ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the spelling ‘Capernaum’ here instead of ‘Capharnaum’.

²⁵ ‘the Two-drachma Taxes’ = a tax in Roman coinage exacted by the Jews from every Israelite for the support of the Temple in Jerusalem. The Jewish coinage was ½ shekel.

²⁶ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the clause ‘when he entered’ here.. On the basis of one manuscript (B) the NU has a participle ‘coming’.

²⁷ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘The Peter says to Him,’ here.. On the basis of one manuscript (B) the NU has ‘Now, having said,’

²⁸ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

²⁹ ‘stater’ – a transliteration of the Greek word στατήρα, referring to a Roman coin of various metals. Apparently, this coin was valuable enough to pay the Two-Drachma Tax for two.