

## The Transfiguration of Our Lord (2021)

### Mark 9

**Mark 9:2–9** And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. *And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.*

In the Name of Jesus.

That was FOR US, my dear ones! He charged them not to tell anyone about the Mount of Transfiguration

and the Voice of the Father and the Cloud and Moses and Elijah—and Peter’s lovely suggestions!—until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

HE...IZZZZZ...NOTHING....if not ‘FOR...US!’  
THAT Son of Man.

How bold can pastor be FOR US?! For you?

Until YOU, son of Adam, daughter of Eve, children of men—until YOU are raised from the dead—and you HAFTA be raised! Jesus was raised! So, if HIM, then YOU-FOR-CERTAIN!

But there’s part of you, me, that does not ‘HANG’ with all this resurrection business, strength through weakness, life through death, God through man—you learned from the Small Catechism of Doctor Martin Luther to label that you that’s you, me that’s me: the Old Adam. OLD, son of man. What is going to happen to HIM, when we are raised from the dead?

Jesus told Peter, James and John NOT to tell what

they had SEEN, until Jesus was raised from the dead.  
 [OH! RE----JOY----CE----my dearly beloved, the  
 HE rejoices most to call HIMSELF ONE...OF...US!  
 Son of Man!]

Jesus told them what they had seen was all good  
 stuff—but that the Son of MAN would  
 N...E...V....E....R... be ‘on display’ to the mob, the  
 voters, the violent, all that’s so OLD, before He has  
 come. But He came!

Jesus cannot afford to have the OLD that IS you and  
 me SMOTHER and CHOKE and KILL what’s new  
 about us already, lest we rise from the dead dead  
 forever.

My dear ones: I need HONERSTRY! Step on the  
 scale with me—go through your physical exam with  
 Doctor Pastor today—let us measure our correct  
 MASS.

There is a YOU, that is YOU—that would LOVE to  
 have power over those who TICK...YOU...OFF!

That YOU—so OLD!—pops out when, harmlessly, when YOUR TEAM stumbles into more points that someone else's team. Cock-a-doodle-doo!

It cuts somewhat nearer to the bone when you and I INFLICT gods on one another, lords, masters, tyrants. As the mob cried out for Barabbas and cried Jesus do crucifixion; as Pilate surfs the waves of public opinion—AZACK-LY as our presidents do, our Congress, our Supremes, our toadies, our lackies—

My poor sweetheart reports to me now and then the vile, violent, demonic typings she reads on Satan's social media thingys. How people she knows, friends, associates, relatives, and Cock-a-doodle-doo about how those out-of-touch Christians need to get it....!

This is pastor's Valentine to his savior-wife, and to y'all, my saviors all. I beg you not to stop twisting Heaven's arms and ears: 'Imagine raising our PASTOR from what he really is! Will YOUR

praises, dear Father, echo for all eternity!  
UNBELIEVABLE whom you can LOVE!’

Facebook is N...E....V....E...R... going to learn that  
YOU are now God’s dear child; and that you are  
NOT.....J...U.....S.....T.....what you WERE, so Old.  
You have been baptized at the command of the One  
Who rose from the dead to tell good news that owes  
NOTHING to those who hear it, those who are to  
spread it:

**16** When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene,  
Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought  
spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And  
very early on the first day of the week, when the sun  
had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> And they were  
saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone  
for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup> And looking  
up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it  
was very large. <sup>5</sup> And entering the tomb, they saw a  
young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a  
white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> And he said to  
them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of  
Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not  
here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell  
his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to

Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”

<sup>8</sup> And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. <sup>1</sup>

I’m so HAPPY! And as my savior-wife will tell you, and my therapist: that’s a big deal.

Oh! Pete, Jimmy and Johnny would LOVE to Facebook the Mount of Transfiguration! But they were not even AROUND to hear of the Crucified One risen from the dead.

And the TRUE disciples? The women?

They tell no one. What was Old in them—fear—dimmed what was New to them. And that was O...K... He is still risen from the dead.

My lovelies, my valentines: Moses and the prophet Elijah were of one accord. ‘NONE of your people, O Lord, is LINED UP with your Ten Commandments,

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<sup>1</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mk 16:1–8). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

your Law, your Love!’

And yet, they are appear with Jesus, seemingly at peace. And then they were gone, and the disciples were left with ‘Jesus only.’ And He was NOT enough—nowhere NEAR enough for Old Peter, Old James, Old John.

So Jesus rose from the dead.

Jesus fasted for 40 days after His baptism with the other sinners. Do NOT let anyone take away JESUS’ position as a sinner: born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those.....UNDER the Law means CONDEMNED, even by Moses.

The Church, from way back, has set aside 40 days, starting this Wednesday, to put the Old Adam on the scale and weigh him up.

Your poor pastor lays it before you, in love. Learn repentance again. Learn repentance by keeping on keeping-on with your fellow Americans, your fellow

communicants, your fellows. Know that what's OLD in them CAN...NOT.....canNOT see the Kingdom of the One Who was MOCKED as King on the cross.

Consider that NO ONE voted for Jesus on HIS election day. And THAT is what ABSORBS the Voice from above, the Fear we all have, the One from Whom all children of men are cut off forever.

Or WERE, before the Crucified rose from the dead.

And whether WE trumpet the Good News, or fail to, or live, speak, act as such a mixed bag—the Good News of Jesus Christ cannot be undone. My Valentine likes to say, ‘You cannot back up THAT bus!’

ALL that men run from in fear and act naughty...

ALL that men try to impress with their rules and laws and tyranny...



God, Heaven, Life, Creator, Fate, Future...we are SO confused!

Our Father is tickled PINK that His Son, the Almighty Son, delights to do the Father's will! To look at the number on our scales, weigh us to the gram, and two decimal points past, and STILL say, 'Y'ALL are just like grampa Adam. Y'all INSIST on DEMOTING yourselves to your Servant: God! But have no fear. I am one of y'all now, and forever. I am THE Son of Man. And when I am swept out of heaven, that's when you should start to worry.'

Happy Valentine's Day in the Name of Jesus!