

Christ Rebuked Peter

K. Christ's rebuke of Peter – Matthew 16:21-23, Mark 8:31-33, Luke 9:22

1. Matthew 16:21 – Jesus told His disciples that Messiah's role as the suffering Servant had to come before He could reign as King.
2. Matthew 16:22 – Peter did not want Christ to die and thought he was right in speaking out against the Lord's plan; however, he did not understand the entire plan.

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3. Matthew 16:23a – Jesus completely reversed His earlier commendation of Peter.
 - a. Matthew 16:23b – Sadly, Peter’s suggestion was similar to Satan’s in Matthew 4. Both wanted Messiah to have the crown without the cross.
 - b. Matthew 16:23c – Jesus’ death was central to His work as Messiah; therefore, standing in the way of His death was the same as aiding Satan.

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4. Some thoughts regarding this exchange between Jesus and Peter
 - a. Peter believed in Jesus but did not understand everything about God's plan.
 - b. We may not always understand God's plan, but God remains God, and we must always humbly submit to His will.
Habakkuk 1:12-2:1
 - c. God's plan might not make sense to us.
Joshua 5:1-5 Isaiah 55:8

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- d. Avoiding Peter's mistake involves exchanging the thinking of this world for the thinking of Christ. Romans 12:2

Pneumatology

Sanctifying

A total transformation is required for the new type of thinking – *Romans 12:2*.

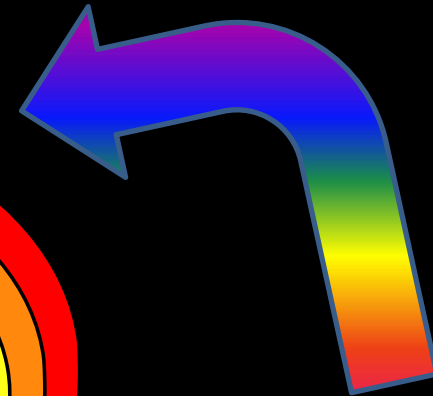
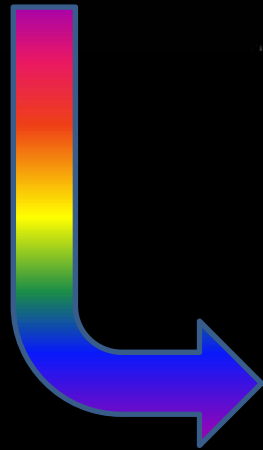
The transformation process takes time, discipline, and consistency – *2 Cor. 4:16*.

The power of the Holy Spirit working with the Word of God in our soul produces the change that transforms our character – *Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:15-16*.

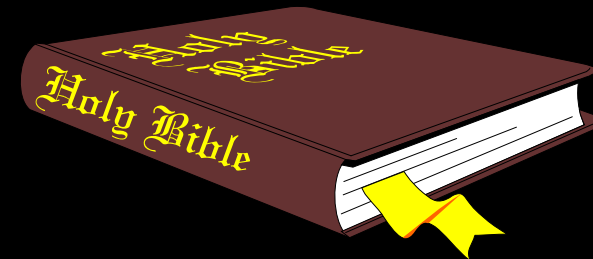
Pneumatology

Sanctifying

Ephesians 5:18



Colossians
3:15-16



Taking Up Your Cross

L. Taking up your cross – Matthew 16:24-28,
Mark 8:34-9:1, Luke 9:23-27

1. Matthew 16:24a – Christ's instructions are for believers in their discipleship, not for the salvation of unbelievers.
 - a. Matthew 16:24b – Following Jesus means continually obeying the commands to deny and take up.

Taking Up Your Cross

- b. Matthew 16:24c – *Deny*(Greek: *APARNEOMAI*, to pay no attention to) is an imperative command to lose sight of self in service to Christ. Romans 6:11-14
- c. Matthew 16:24d – Taking up one's cross had added significance for that generation.
 - 1) Historical note: The cross, an instrument of death for capital crimes, was greatly feared because of its excruciating torture.

Taking Up Your Cross

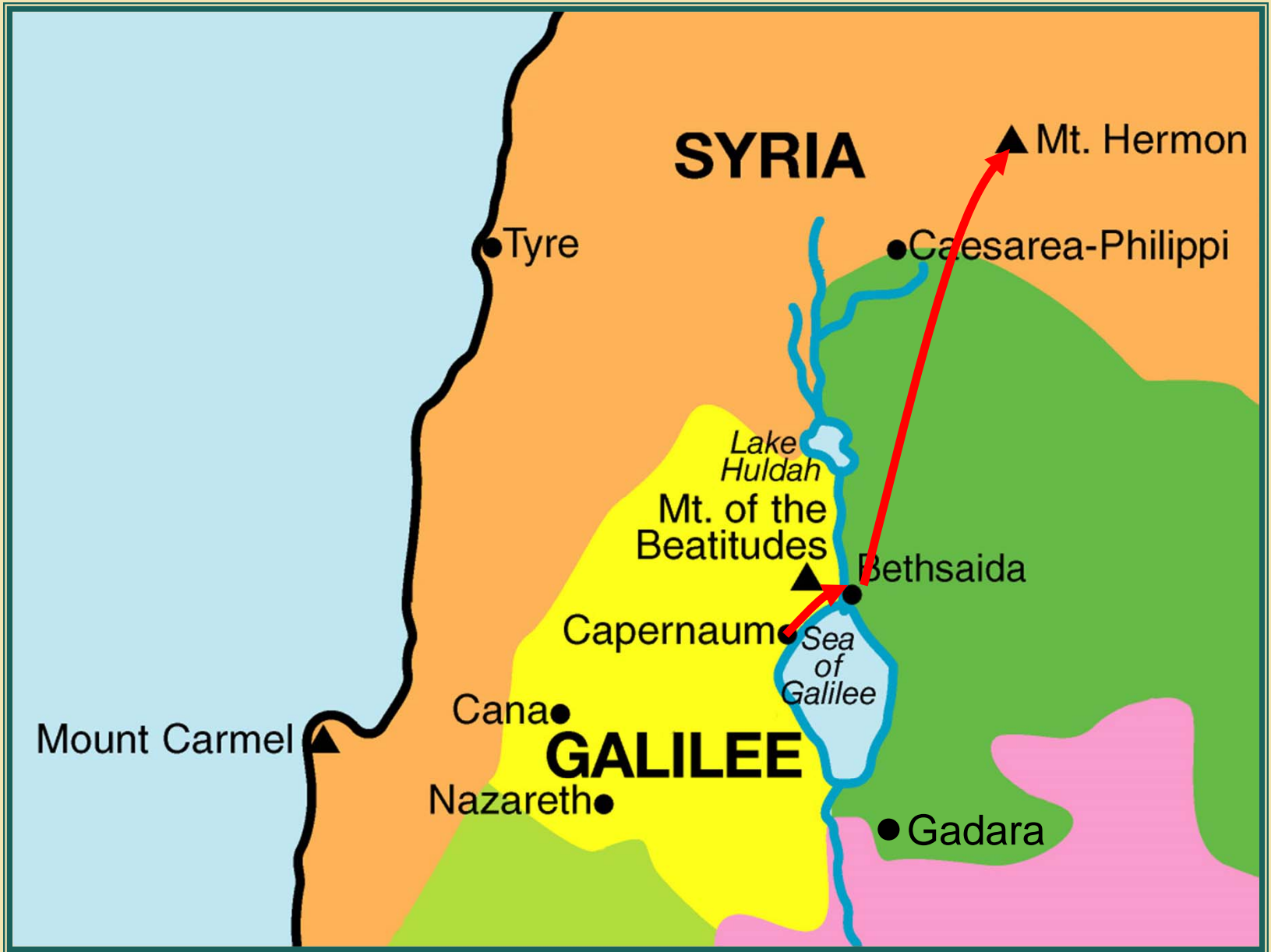
- 2) Jesus used the imagery of the cross to communicate the truth that a believer should view himself as positionally dead to his sin nature, which has no rightful authority over any believer.
Romans 6:5-6
- 3) Taking up our cross means living in the reality that we are dead to the authority of the sin nature because of our identity in Christ.

Taking Up Your Cross

2. Matthew 16:25 – This paradoxical statement says that the only way to truly live is to lose self-focus and self-reliance and focus on Jesus (live by faith). Hebrews 12:1-3
3. Matthew 16:26 – The person who gains the world loses the eternal weight of glory (not salvation but rewards). 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Taking Up Your Cross

4. Matthew 16:27 – Knowing this truth should help us focus on eternal truths from above rather than on temporal things found here below. Colossians 3:2-3
5. Matthew 16:28 – Jesus referred to the three disciples who would shortly see His Kingdom-glory on the Mount of Transfiguration. 2 Peter 1:16-21



The Transfiguration

M. The transfiguration – Matthew 17:1-13, Mark 9:2-13, Luke 9:28-36

1. Matthew 17:1 – Jesus took with Him the three disciples He said would not taste death before they saw His glory. Fulfillment of Matthew 16:28
2. Luke 9:28-29 – Luke emphasized that Jesus' purpose in going up on the mountain was to communicate with God the Father in prayer.

The Transfiguration

3. Matthew 17:2 – For a short time, the Lord's earthly body changed into its future resurrection form in His kingdom.
4. Luke 9:30-31 – Moses was Israel's lawgiver and knew the pressures of being a deliverer. Elijah was the prophet of future restoration who knew rejection. The Lord fulfilled all these roles.

The Transfiguration

5. Luke 9:32-33 – Peter's impulsiveness prompted his babbling response. James 1:19
6. Matthew 17:4-5 – Speaking from Heaven, God the Father interrupted Peter's babbling, commanding him to be quiet and listen to His Son, the Suffering Servant.
7. Matthew 17:6-8 – Hearing the voice of the Father terrified the disciples. Jesus' words calmed them.

The Transfiguration

8. Mark 9:9-10 – Jesus' statement about the resurrection troubled the three men, but they obeyed Him.
9. Why did the Transfiguration happen?
 - a. Contextually in John 6, Messiah had just taught the people Truth, resulting in their rejection of Him and the bewilderment of His disciples.

The Transfiguration

- b. Jesus warned His disciples not to tell anyone as He began instructing them on His death, burial, and resurrection. He didn't want them distracted from His teaching.
- c. Jesus' difficult instructions prompted Peter's reaction. The disciples began wondering if the Kingdom was forfeited since the Messiah was going to die.

The Transfiguration

- d. The Transfiguration was for the disciple's benefit because after the resurrection, they would declare all they saw and teach that the Kingdom would come in God's perfect timing. 2 Peter 1:16-18

The Transfiguration

10. Matthew 17:10 – In discussing the Lord's statement about the resurrection, the disciples asked a legitimate question about Elijah's prophesied coming.

- a. The disciples knew something about the prophetic outline that did not line up with their current understanding of the Kingdom.
- b. They knew four facts.

The Transfiguration

- 1) They had seen Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration.
- 2) They understood the Old Testament prophecy of Malachi 3:1 and 4:5-6 that the messenger would come before the Messiah.

The Transfiguration

- 3) They knew that Jesus said He would suffer and die. This information caused the confusion because they were still focused on the Kingdom beginning at once.
- 4) They knew that the scribes taught that Elijah would come beforehand and anoint the Messiah with oil.

The Transfiguration

11. Mark 9:12 – Jesus brought a neglected aspect of the Messiah’s work into focus, namely His suffering and death. The Pharisees didn’t teach the Suffering Messiah.
12. Matthew 17:11-12 – Israel’s national rejection of both John the Baptist and the Messiah meant that guilt for Messiah’s sufferings would belong to that generation.

The Transfiguration

13. Matthew 17:13 – The implication behind the Lord's statement was that if Israel had accepted John and Jesus' words, then John the Baptist would have been the fulfillment of the prophecy regarding Elijah. Luke 1:76

Instructions about Faith

N. Instructions about faith – Matthew 17:14-21, Mark 9:14-29, Luke 9:37-43a

1. Matthew 17:14-15 – As they came back from the transfiguration, a father vividly described his son's demon possession.
2. Matthew 17:16 – The father was justifiably disappointed that the disciples failed to cast out his son's demon.

Instructions about Faith

3. Matthew 17:17 – The Lord rebuked that generation of Jews for their failure to trust Him. The disciples needed to learn to live by faith before He left them.
4. Matthew 17:18 – Through this demon, Jesus provided more miraculous evidence that He was, indeed, the Messiah.

Instructions about Faith

5. Matthew 17:19 – The disciples did not understand the future ramifications of their lack of faith, which had manifested itself in their inability to drive out the demon.
6. Matthew 17:20a – Jesus pointed out that God needs only the smallest amount of faith to act on our behalf. Even so, our faith must continue to grow.

Instructions about Faith

- a. Matthew 17:20b – The disciples had to learn to live by faith because Jesus would not always be with them.
- b. Mark 9:29 – Mark pointed out that as believers we express our mustard seed of faith through fervent prayer.

Gospels



Faith

Faith comes from hearing the Word of God
– *Romans 10:17*.

Faith involves believing and the content of
what is believed – *Hebrews 11:1*.

The believer who lives by faith operates in
the present reality with the promises of the
Word of God more real than the problems
of the world – *1 John 5:4*.

Death and Taxes

- O. Teaching about His death and taxes –
Matthew 17:22-27, Mark 9:30-32, Luke 9:43-45**
- 1. Mark 9:30-31 – Jesus wanted to remain unrecognized so He could instruct His disciples privately on the events surrounding His death and resurrection.**

Death and Taxes

2. Mark 9:32 – The disciples' presuppositions about Messiah as King made His death and resurrection hard for them to understand and even grieved them. Matthew 17:23
3. Matthew 17:24-25a – Peter impulsively responded with a *yes* to the question about this tax for using the temple.

Death and Taxes

- a. Matthew 17:25b – The Lord used this situation as a teaching moment to again explain the facts of His Messiahship.
- b. Matthew 17:25c – Christ made a subtle claim to deity by saying that everyone paid the temple tax but the Son of God because, as God, the temple was His house.

Death and Taxes

4. Matthew 17:26 – God the Son was exempt from the temple tax, and all those in the Son will be exempt also because He paid the full price so that believers are now the temple. 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20
5. Matthew 17:27 – Having taught the necessary truth, Jesus paid the tax to avoid making it a distraction to His mission.