

FATAL ATTRACTIONS: Greater Attractions

MARK 9:2-8

■ John Andrew Clayton ■ Central Church ■ Feb. 28, 2021 ■ Social Media: #FatalAttractions

To destroy fatal attractions, we must...

1. Be **Enamored** by a Greater **Glory** (2-3).
2. Be **Empowered** by a Greater **Presence** (4-6).
3. Be **Equipped** by a Greater **Word** (7-8).

Mark 9:2-8 (ESV)

“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.”

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What is it that impacts you most about the story of the Transfiguration? How do you think this moment impacted Peter, James and John? How did the news of this moment impact the other disciples?
2. Fatal attractions deceive us into thinking that there is more pleasure and satisfaction in worldly things. However, Jesus' transfiguration reminds us that there is nothing that can compete with the glory, pleasure, satisfaction and fulfillment that is found in him. How can you remind yourself this week, and on a daily basis, of the surpassing worth of Jesus?
3. As Jesus was transfigured, Elijah and Moses appeared and began speaking with him. What would it have been like to witness such a glorious sight, but to overhear such a grim conversation?
4. Peter, James and John are familiar with the stories of God's presence dwelling among his people in the OT. How did Jesus transform the manner in which God dwells among his people? How did this greater presence encourage these three disciples? How does it encourage you?
5. In the NT, God spoke audibly on three occasions and each occasion was an affirmation of Jesus' Sonship. On the Mount of Transfiguration, God delivers a command along with his affirmation of Jesus. God commanded the disciples to listen to Jesus. In what ways have you failed to listen to Jesus and how has that hindered you in your fight against fatal attractions? How can you listen to Jesus this week?

Quote for the Week. . . by C.S. Lewis



"If we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."