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Luke 9:31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Luke 9:32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

Luke 9:33 And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said.

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Our spirit needs to be pure and high (on the mountain; far away from religion and the world) in order to see the fresh and high revelation of Christ and the church. Our prayers in and with Christ need to be in the experience of His resurrection (eight days).

This is a small shadow of the kingdom of God, the Son of God revealing His true face in glory. The disciples saw and accompanied the Lord whose "appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind" (**Isaiah 52:14**), "For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him." (**Isaiah 53:2**). Such a Lord hidden in a haggard person was actually the Son of God. He was originally holy and bright! **Wa! After the Lord's 2nd coming, our body will be very similar (1st Cor 15:42-44).**

Isaiah 52:14 As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

Isaiah 53:2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

1st Cor 15:42-44 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

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Matthew 17:1 And after **six days** Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a **high mountain** by themselves.

Jesus waited about eight days (Matthew and Mark say six days) after giving Peter and His disciples the revelation that He was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Why did Jesus wait six or eight days before giving His disciples another revelation?

In the Bible, “six” stands for God’s creation, and is therefore the number for man. Man was created on the sixth day. “Eight” signifies resurrection. Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week, which is exactly the eighth day. All the male children of the Israelites were to be circumcised on the eighth day, which signifies a new beginning. This may mean that any revelation that God gives to us requires time for us to experience and realize. It also requires us to experience the death and resurrection of Christ. Even God did not create the world in an instant. It took Him six days. Each day followed the preceding one. There was a growing process. Likewise, we need to grow. Are we merely excited about the Lord’s speaking to us, so we declare joyfully that the Lord has spoken to us or led us, or do we spend time to deny ourselves, to pursue His word, to pursue spending time with the saints, to pursue preaching the gospel? If not, it will be difficult for the Lord to give us fresh revelation. Peter, James and John were ready to receive further revelation because they had spent time with Jesus to live out what they had heard.

Jesus led His disciples up the mountain, not to show His disciples His transfiguration, but to pray. Luke is the only writer who points this out. This may indicate that any revelation that the Lord desires to show us must come through prayer. Do we pray with our service team members, do we pray with the church, do we pray individually to the Lord? We often seek the Lord’s leading, but the Lord leads us to pray, apart from the religious world, to be alone with the Lord, and with the brothers and sisters.

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When we pray, we are talking to God. We can lay down our burdens in front of Him, let go of our worries, trust Him, and rely on Him. He will comfort and encourage us to give us the confidence to face all circumstances.

These two verses remind me of a song of prayer, a sweet time. When I felt anxious and worried, I came to Him, unloaded my burden, and pleaded with Him. He was faithful, since He asked me to seek His face, believe His words, and rely on His grace.

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Luk 9:31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Luk 9:32 Now Peter and those who were with him were **heavy with sleep**, but when they became **fully awake** they **saw his glory** and the **two men who stood with him**.

Peter, James and John were heavy with sleep. The Greek word for “sleep,” ***hypnos*** (where we get the English word hypnosis) has a connotation of spiritual torpor. The Greek word for “heavy” is ***bareo***, which means “weight” or “burden.” Jesus was praying, but the three disciples were sleeping. How much were they able to hear Moses’ and Elijah’s speaking concerning Jesus’ death?

We should not criticize Peter, James and John because we fall asleep much more often. Many spiritual things may become a weight or a wearisome burden to us. For example, we may read the Bible but not understand. Eventually, the Bible may become a weight to us, and we lose interest in reading it. Or we may listen to many messages, but every message may seem the same to us. There is no “next step” in our life. We may have little response. Yet we may faithfully attend conference after conference. We may be in a spiritual torpor or sleep. Nothing affects us.

However, when the three disciples became fully awake, they saw the glory of Jesus and Moses and Elijah. The Greek word for “saw” is ***eido***, which indicates a subjective seeing or knowing. This provoked a response from Peter, even though he did not fully understand what he was saying. Nevertheless, he responded.

Do we respond to the Lord’s speaking? When we awaken, we see Jesus and brothers and sisters/servants of God, represented by Moses and Elijah. Their speaking becomes meaningful. We are convicted. We desire to take another step. We are hungry to stay with them, to listen, to respond, to testify, to preach the gospel to others. What was wearisome earlier becomes alive and real to us.

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Luke 9:31 who appeared in glory and **spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.**

Is there another reason why Moses and Elijah appeared? When Moses died, God hid his body (**Deut 34:5-6**); Elijah was living when he was raised up by God to the heavens (**2nd Kings 2:11**). God deliberately did these two things so that Moses and Elijah could appear with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration. They may be also reserved by God to be the two witnesses in the event of a catastrophe (**Rev 11:3-4**). Moses represents the law, and Elijah the prophets. The law and the prophets are the constituting elements of the Old Testament, to be the full testimony of Christ.

What Jesus, Moses and Elijah were talking about was not only the death of the Lord Jesus, but also His resurrection and ascension. The crucifixion of the Lord Jesus resolved sin and death and destroyed Satan, and brought salvation to all mankind. This is the greatest thing in the universe. It is not only related to the people of the New Testament, but also to the people of the Old Testament.

Deut 34: 5-6 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, and **he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.**

2nd Kings 2:11 nd as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And **Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.**

Rev 11: 3 And I will grant authority to **my two witnesses**, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

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Luk 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

1Pe 1:10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours **searched and inquired carefully,**

1Pe 1:11 **inquiring** what person or time the **Spirit of Christ in them** was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

Luke is the only gospel writer who tells us what Moses and Elijah were talking about to Jesus: His imminent death on the cross. Moses and Elijah encompass the entire Old Testament: the law and the prophets. In Luke 24:27, Jesus divides the entire Old Testament scriptures (the only Scriptures at that time) into two categories: Moses and the prophets. According to Peter in his first epistle, the prophets (including Moses) searched and inquired carefully what they were prophesying concerning the sufferings of Christ and His glory. Peter even says that they had the Spirit of Christ in them. They diligently pursued, and eventually, on the mount of transfiguration, in glory, they were able to see Jesus and speak about what they had inquired into.

Do we diligently pursue and inquire? Do we ask questions, like the prophets? Moses and Elijah pursued and experienced the sufferings of Christ before they spoke with Jesus. Any speaking or writing that we engage in should be preceded by careful inquiry and experience. Does the Spirit of Christ in us speak to us? Does the Spirit of Christ in the saints speak to us? Do we experience the death of Christ, the putting to death of our self? If so, we may speak about the death of Christ, like Moses and Elijah.

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Luke 9:33 And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. **Let us make three tents**, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said.

Luke 9:34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.

“**Let us make three tents**” was Peter's wild speaking, and it put Moses and Elijah in the same position as Christ, which means to make the law and the prophets equal to Christ. This completely violates God's economy. In God's economy, the law and prophets are only the witnesses of Christ, and should not be placed as equal to Christ.

However, at any time in our church life, we may erect many more “tents” in addition to our Lord Jesus Christ.

“**Let us make three tents**” also meant that Peter and the others desired to stay in the glorious and enjoyable environment on the mountain, and did not want to go down the mountain to face the suffering and bear the cross. They forgot that the cross was the way of the kingdom of God on the earth. **In the church life we may enjoy very much the church gatherings. How about gospel preaching, accompanying saints, serving young people, visiting weak ones.....?**

Luk 9:33 And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make **three tents**, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—**not knowing what he said**.

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Luk 9:35 And a **voice came out of the cloud**, saying, "**This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!**"

Exo 40:34 Then **the cloud covered the tent of meeting**, and the **glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**.

Exo 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because **the cloud settled on it**, and the **glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**.

Peter interestingly proposed erecting three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah. Of what was he thinking? Perhaps he may have been thinking of the tent of meeting in the Old Testament. He had a genuine desire to worship and honor Jesus. However, he spoke without understanding or incomplete revelation. He did not realize that a tent, or tabernacle, without Jesus as the sole content, is empty. Even though Moses and Elijah were so significant to usher in Jesus, they could not occupy the same position as Jesus in the tent of meeting. Eventually, a cloud overshadowed them, perhaps reminiscent of the cloud that covered the tabernacle in the Old Testament and the glory of the Lord that filled it.

What is the content of our gatherings? Undoubtedly, we need the servants of God to declare the visions and revelations to us, just like Moses and Elijah did. We need their speaking in order to grow. However, no servant of God can be on the same level as Jesus. Their function is to lead us to Christ, to know Him, experience Him and love Him. How do we receive their speaking? Do we boast in the riches that we receive in order to despise others? Or does the speaking of the servants of God become the Lord's speaking to us and in us? Every time we listen to a message, or any speaking from the servants of God, may we diligently exercise to find the Lord's speaking to us personally, to hear Him and listen to Him, the well beloved Son.

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Luke 9:36 And when the voice had spoken, **Jesus was found alone**. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

“**A voice came out of the cloud**” meant that God didn’t let Peter remain confused, and interrupted Peter and affirmed to the disciples that only His Son could bring in the glory of the kingdom of God.

The Father confessed the Son by declaring “This is my Son.” The first time was after Christ’s baptism when He came out of the water. That baptism was a sign of His resurrection from the dead. **This was the 2nd time the Father declared the same thing, confessing the Son in the Son’s transfiguration. Both confessions indicated that God the Father was satisfied with Jesus’ living on the earth. Here, Jesus’ transfiguration also manifested the glorious kingdom to come.**

Luke 9:28-36 is shadow of the kingdom of God. The Son of God is the only authority in the kingdom of God, and everyone must listen to and obey Him. The Lord Jesus is the only One who is worthy of exaltation. By living in His presence, we can enjoy Him as joy and comfort. **As we grow in Christ’s life, we will gradually turn our eyes from all people, things and objects other than the Lord to Christ Himself.**

Peter’s view was to keep Moses and Elijah, the law and prophets, together with Christ, but God took away Moses and Elijah, leaving only Jesus alone. The law and the prophets are shadows and not the reality; the reality is Christ. Now that Christ is actually here, shadows are no longer needed. In the New Testament, only Jesus should be the center and reality of everything. Jesus is today’s Moses who imparts the law of life to those who believe in Him; Jesus is also today’s Elijah, speaking for God and speaking forth God among believers. This is the economy of God’s New Testament.