

# Identifying Jesus

## Matthew 17:1-11

### 1. Suffering Servant: The Son of Man

Peter, James & John witnessed Jesus as the Son of Man; left heaven's glory and took on human flesh so that He may suffer and die on the cross for our sins, but will rise from the dead, as Jesus said He would.

### 2. Superior in Every Way: Divine

Peter, James & John witnessed Jesus transfigure and heard Father God's voice so that they may understand that Jesus is the divine Son of God.

### Conclusion:

Witnessing Jesus reveal His divinity became a moment of truth for those three disciples, as after Jesus death and resurrection, this moment reminded them that Jesus is the Messiah who is fully God and fully human who came to die on the cross for humanity's sin, and rose again three days later because God's power conquered sin, death, and the devil.

### Reflection:

- 1) Each person who lives for Jesus, experienced a moment of truth; when the truth about the gospel was revealed to you and in that moment, you were convinced of the truth. Peter made it clear in 2 Peter 1:16-18, that the transfiguration of Jesus was a moment of truth for him. What was your moment of truth? How did you become aware of this truth? What bible verse, statement, or experience did God use to convince you of the truth? What changes in your own life have taken place because of experiencing the moment of truth about Jesus?
- 2) "Our view of this world will be transformed when we place Jesus, the Son of God, at the center of our reality. Not only ideologies, but also our daily priorities and values must be evaluated in the light of Jesus' revelation. After all, Father God declares, "Listen to him!" We must listen to his guidance on the way that we live our lives—how much television and what kind of movies we watch, the way we budget our income, the respect we display toward our spouses and children", the way we present ourselves to the world, language that proceeds from our mouths. Everything that we are is impacted by the centrality of Jesus in the way that we view the world and live in it as his disciples.

- *Michael J. Wilkins*

Have we been faithfully obedient to Jesus, or have we lost our way and need to seek forgiveness from God?

- 3) When you think of Jesus, do you have a tendency to forget about, or to downplay, His power and holiness? Do you think focusing on Christ's power and holiness more would affect your spiritual life? Why or why not?