



**August 6, 2017 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Lectionary: 614 Gospel MT 17:1-9**

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**Spiritual Reflection:** Have you ever wondered by Jesus does not allow all twelve Apostles to witness the Transfiguration? I believe that He does what He does for two reasons. The first is that Peter, James, and John needed to be strengthened in their faith before the Crucifixion in order to take on their roles of leadership afterwards (God gives to each person what they need) and secondly it shows us that even special spiritual experiences do not prevent us from abandoning Christ because all three of them deserted Christ in His time of need.

**Spiritual Questions:**

1. Why does God give special gifts of grace to certain people?
2. Does God ever hold back grace from someone who needs it?
3. Why must the vision be kept a secret until the Son of Man is raised from the dead?
4. What do you think the other apostles were thinking?
5. Does God glory scare you?