

Faith That Matters

February 20, 2022

Mark 9:14-29

Pastor Mark Turner

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Intro

- Last week – a glorious divine Jesus revealed
- We have God's Word – listen to it!

A Radical Contrast

- *The Transfiguration* (Raphael 1520) captures the CONTRAST between texts

The Scene

- Coming down, they encounter unbelief
- **Scribes:** following to find dirt on Jesus
- **Disciples:** had been given authority^{Mk6:7} over spirits; they had rejoiced about power^{Lk10:17}; they failed by not having faith & prayer (looking to God)²⁸⁻²⁹
- **Father:** he answers, seeking help



An Honest Frustration 19

- We aren't told to whom Jesus speaks
- Think again on Jesus' demonstrations of His Divinity
- But disciples, scribes, etc. don't see in faith

The Boy's Condition

- Jesus sees boy's condition: physical & spiritual
- Note destructiveness & cruelty of evil in boy's life
- Don't miss the danger of evil in YOUR life – often seems harmless^{2Co11:14} (attractive) but it destroys!

The Response of Jesus

- Jesus rebukes evil spirit²⁵. He is Creator, King & Judge!
- Commands it to leave & never return-new life for boy!

So What Do We Learn?

- Jesus as God is sovereign! This scene was no accident
- **The Need for Faith**
 - father had small humble faith²⁴
 - even if your faith is weak, look to Jesus
- **The Nature of Faith**
 - power of faith is in the object of faith, not in amount!
 - prayer – depending upon God, acknowledging our inability and His mercy & grace to us!
 - Faith – in God's ability, not in our own strength or our past or present achievements!

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