

LESSON TWELVE

THIRD YEAR OF MINISTRY

A. SOME IMPORTANT EVENTS IN CHRIST'S THIRD YEAR:

We are listing here a few important events in the third year of Christ's ministry. This period of time is from the beginning of the third Passover to Palm Sunday. This is a few days less than one year. Jesus was about thirty-two years of age.

This year is sometimes called, "The Year of Opposition."

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| 1. Jesus goes to Phoenicia | - Mark 7:24. |
| 2. He heals the daughter of the Syro-Phoenician woman | - Matthew 15:21-28. |
| 3. Jesus goes from Phoenicia into Decapolis | - Mark 7:31. |
| 4. He heals the deaf and dumb man | - Mark 7:32-37. |
| 5. Jesus feeds more than four thousand with seven loaves and a few fishes | - Matthew 15:32-39. |
| 6. Jesus goes to Bethsaida | - Mark 8:22. |
| 7. Jesus heals a blind man | - Mark 8:22-26. |
| 8. Jesus goes from Bethsaida to Caesarea-Phillipi | - Matthew 16:13. |
| 9. He goes to the Mount of Transfiguration | - Luke 9:28. |
| 10. Jesus is transfigured | - Matthew 17:1-13. |
| 11. The demoniac son is healed | - Mark 9:17-27. |
| 12. He returns to Capernaum | |
| 13. The seventy disciples are instructed and sent out | - Luke 10:1-16. |
| 14. He goes from Capernaum through Samaria to Bethany | - Luke 17:11. |
| 15. The ten lepers are healed near Samaria | - Luke 17:12-16. |
| 16. A woman taken in adultery is brought to Jesus | - John 8:3-11. |
| 17. Jesus attends the Feast of Dedication | - John 10:22-39. |
| 18. Jesus goes to Bethabara | - John 10:40-42. |
| 19. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead | - John 11:1-54. |
| 20. Jesus visits Zacchaeus, chief of publicans | - Luke 19:1-28. |
| 21. Blind Bartimaeus is healed | - Mark 10:46-52. |
| 22. Jesus arrives at Bethany again six days before Passover | - John 12:1, 9-11. |
| 23. Jesus enters Jerusalem welcomed by the multitude | - Matthew 21:1-11. |

B. THE TRANSFIGURATION:

TEXT: Matthew 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28-36.

The scene that took place on the Mount of Transfiguration was one of the most wonderful during the three years of our Lord's ministry.

Shortly before this Jesus had announced that He must go to Jerusalem, be rejected by the elders and chief priests, and be killed (Matthew 16:21). He also said that He would be raised the third day. His disciples could not understand and they became dejected, depressed and discouraged. Peter rebuked the Lord, and said, "*This shall not be unto thee.*" Jesus recognized the influence

of the tempter in this, and rebuked Peter; *"Thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men."*

Man's way is always that of pampering and preserving self. God's way is that of self-sacrifice. The way of the cross leads to glory and eternal life; the way of self-preservation leads to death. These truths the disciples could not comprehend.

Jesus desired to encourage them and at the same time draw the curtain back and allow them to catch a glimpse of the glory to come. Jesus took the three most spiritual of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, into a high mountain by themselves. Evidently the other disciples were not yet ready to witness such a glorious scene. These disciples Jesus took into the home of Jairus when He raised his daughter from death, and later in Gethsemane Jesus took them farther than the others. However, as we shall see, even these three disciples were unable to fully comprehend what they witnessed.

LESSON TWELVE

SELF HELP TEST

A. State the THREE experiences Peter, James and John had that the other disciples did not have:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B. Why did the scene on the Mount of Transfiguration take place?

C. What truth was taught here on the Mount?

D. Why were the THREE disciples unable to fully comprehend what they witnessed?