



Introduction

The disciples are encouraged to listen to Jesus Christ by seeing him in glory. He heals an epileptic and teaches his disciples humility.



Mount Tabor, possibly where the vision took place (v 2, see map).



Questions

1. What did the voice out of the cloud tell the disciples about Jesus?
2. What example did Jesus use, to illustrate that it is better to be humble than to seek high status?
3. How did Jesus reply to John's question about someone healing using Jesus' name?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 13** Peter, James and John see Jesus in glory talking with Moses and Elijah. God tells the disciples to listen to Jesus because he is his Son. The disciples question Jesus about Elijah
- **v 14 to 29** Jesus emphasises the importance of belief when he heals an epileptic boy
- **v 30 to 32** Jesus predicts his death and resurrection
- **v 33 to 37** After the disciples have argued about who was the greatest, Jesus uses a child to teach them humility (see theme)
- **v 38 to 41** Jesus tells his disciples that there are others who follow him
- **v 42 to 50** Jesus says that we must cut things out of our lives if they cause us (or others) to stumble. He warns that we will be destroyed or end up in Gehenna (see theme) if we don't heed his words. He is using language we see in Isaiah 66 v 24

Timeline AD 30 (see below)



Themes

Humility

A selection of verses showing that we should be humble. It is a recognition of what should be our true position in God's eyes.

Psalm 10 verse 17

Proverbs 16 verses 18 and 19

Isaiah 57 verse 15

Micah 6 verse 8

Jesus warns against regarding ourselves as superior to others:

Matthew 23 verses 10 to 12

Luke 18 verses 9 to 14

The apostle Paul also encourages humility:

Colossians 3 verse 12

**Gehenna**

Gehenna refers to The Valley of the son of Hinnom which is just outside Jerusalem. A selection of verses showing that the Bible uses the term the fire of Gehenna to indicate total destruction.

Kings of Israel burned their sons in the valley of the son of Hinnom:

2 Chronicles 28 verse 3, 33 verse 6

King Josiah prevented child sacrifice in the valley of the son of Hinnom:

2 Kings 23 verse 10

The dead bodies of those who have transgressed against God end up fire that won't be quenched:

Isaiah 66 verse 24

The Valley of the son of Hinnom is associated with idolatry, fire rituals and child sacrifices in the prophet Jeremiah's time. He tells us that the idea of burning people has never entered God's mind:

Jeremiah 7 verses 30 and 31

Jesus warns that we may end up destroyed in Gehenna fire for various reasons:

Matthew 5 verse 22

Mark 9 verses 43 and 44

Referring to the scribes and Pharisees as serpents, Jesus warns them of their coming destruction:

Matthew 23 verse 33

The apostle James uses the term in a similar symbolic way:

James 3 verse 6

The apostle Jude refers to the total destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah as suffering the vengeance of eternal fire:

Jude verse 7

**Answers to questions**

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 7, Q 2: v 35 and 36, Q 3: v 39 and 40



Israel in New Testament times

Map showing places in Israel in New Testament times including Mount Tabor.





Bible timeline

