

Listen to Him!
Matthew 16:28-17:13

Review

1. Are we listening to the truth of Jesus' glory, or are we only concerned with what we can get out of discipleship?
2. Are we listening to the truth of Jesus' all-sufficient sacrifice, or do we try to earn God's favor through our own feeble efforts?
3. Are we paying attention to the impermanence of the Transfiguration, or are we grasping for all the blessings of Heaven for ourselves right now?

Go Further – Read Malachi 3:13-4:6

1. How does God describe His people's words in verse 13?
2. What is the complaint of God's people in verse 14?
3. What is the particular problem the people identify in verse 15? Have you ever been discouraged in this way?
4. Whose names does God write in a Book of Remembrance in verse 16? Why would this be such a comfort to them?
5. What three promises does God make to these people in verse 17?
6. What sorts of distinctions are we called to make in verse 18?
7. What does God promise will happen to the wicked in 4:1?
8. What three promises does God make to the righteous in verses 2-3?
9. What does God warn the people to observe in verse 4? How would this prepare them for the coming of the Lord?
10. Whom does God say He will send to prepare the people for His coming?
11. In verse 6, in what direction does God say the hearts of fathers and children need to be turned?

Apply

1. Describe a time that you felt that your efforts to live a holy life didn't make any difference.
2. How did the first 3 verses of chapter 4 inform people's expectation of Jesus' earthly ministry? Why might these verses have confused the people who saw how Jesus actually lived and died?
3. In the coming of John the Baptist and Jesus, God fulfilled His promises to Malachi in ways the people did not expect. How has God blessed you in unexpected ways?
4. If Christ were to come in all His glory today, do you think He would be pleased with the way you are living? What changes might you need to make to prepare for His coming?