

Fulfilled Prophecies

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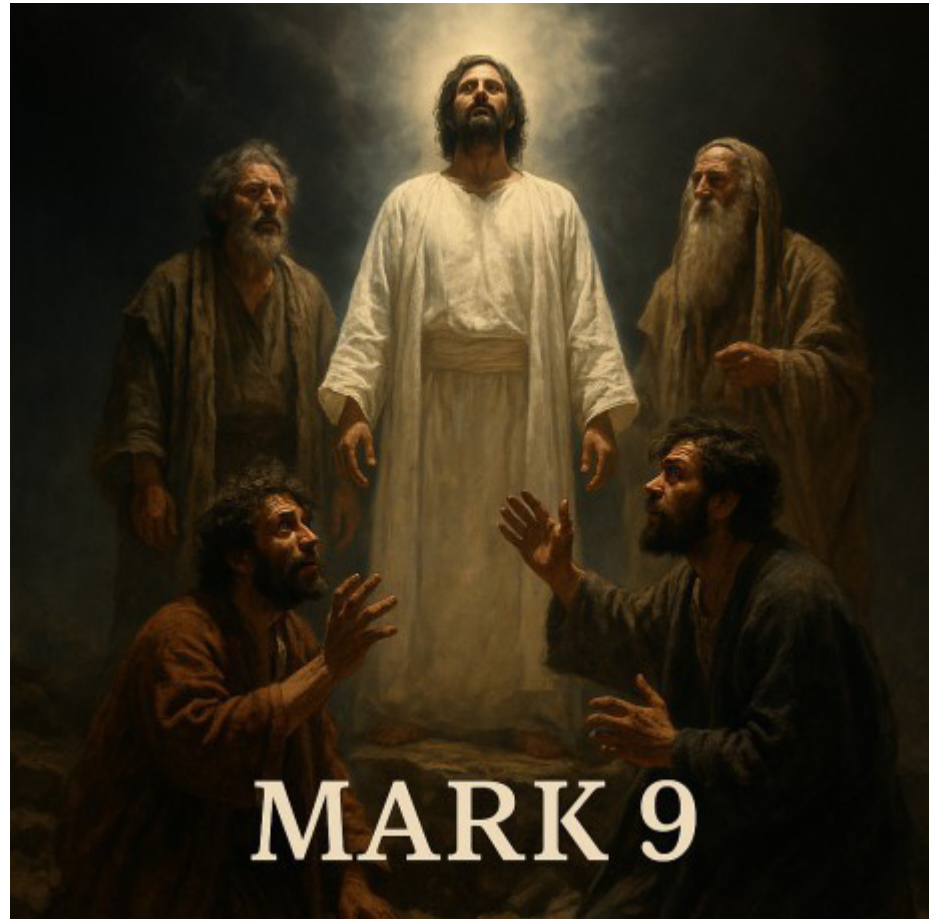
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Mark 9 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

Mark 9

Mark 9:1-8

And Jesus was saying to them, "Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power." Six days later Jesus *took with Him Peter, James, and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth could whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them along with Moses;

and they were talking with Jesus. Peter responded and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here; let's make three tabernacles, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." For he did not know how to respond; for they became terrified. Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is My beloved Son; listen to Him!" And suddenly they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone.

† Jesus promised that some standing there would see the kingdom in power, fulfilled in the transfiguration and ultimately in AD 70.

† Moses and Elijah represented the Law and the Prophets, bearing witness to Christ as their fulfillment.

† The Father's voice confirmed His Son's authority above all.

Mark 9:9-13

As they were coming down from the mountain, He gave them orders not to relate to anyone what they had seen, until the Son of Man rose from the dead. They seized upon that statement, discussing with one another what rising from the dead meant. And they asked Him, saying, "Why is it that the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" And He said to them, "Elijah does come first, and he restores all things; and yet how is it written of the Son of Man that He will suffer many things and be treated with contempt? But I say to you that Elijah has indeed come, and they did to him whatever they wanted, just as it is written of him."

† John the Baptist fulfilled the role of Elijah, preparing the way.

† The disciples still struggled to grasp resurrection and suffering.

† Jesus tied prophecy to both His suffering and John's fate.

Mark 9:14-29

When they came back to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.

Immediately, when the entire crowd saw Him, they were amazed and began running up to greet Him. And He asked them, "What are you disputing with them?" And one person from the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth, and grinds his teeth, and becomes stiff. I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it." And He answered them and said, "You unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!" They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, the spirit immediately threw him into a convulsion, and after falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth. And He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water, to kill him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!" But Jesus said to him, "'If You can?' All things are possible for the one who believes." Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again!" And after crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, "He is dead!" But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him, and he got up. When He came into the house, His disciples began asking Him privately, "Why is it that we could not cast it out?" And He said to them, "This kind cannot come out by anything except prayer."

† The disciples' failure revealed their need for greater dependence on God.

† Faith was central, not mere technique.

† The father's cry, "I believe; help my unbelief," captures the tension of growing faith.

Mark 9:30-32

From there they went out and began to go through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know about it. For He was teaching His disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is going to be handed over to men, and they will kill Him; and when He has been killed, He will rise three days later." But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him.

† Jesus again foretold His death and resurrection.

† The disciples' fear kept them from seeking clarity.

† Fulfillment required suffering before glory.

Mark 9:33-37

They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He began to question them: "What were you discussing on the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them was the greatest. And sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all, and servant of all." And He took a child and placed him among them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me."

† Greatness in the kingdom is measured by humility and service.

† Receiving the lowly is receiving Christ Himself.

† True discipleship overturns worldly ambition.

Mark 9:38-41

John said to Him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we tried to prevent him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not hinder him, because there is no one who will perform a miracle in My name, and be able soon afterward to speak evil of Me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of your name as followers of Christ, truly

I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

† The kingdom was larger than the disciples imagined.

† Even small acts of service in His name are honored.

† Unity in mission transcends rigid group boundaries.

Mark 9:42-50

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it is better for him if a heavy millstone is hung around his neck and he is thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot is causing you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame, than, having your two feet, to be thrown into hell. And if your eye is causing you to sin, throw it away; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than, having two eyes, to be thrown into hell, where their worm does not die, and the fire is not extinguished. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

† Jesus warned against leading others astray, stressing eternal consequences.

† Radical measures were called for in resisting sin.

† Salt symbolized covenant faithfulness and peace within the community.

How it applies to us today:

† Mark 9 reveals the glory of Christ, the necessity of faith, the path of humility, and the seriousness of discipleship. The fulfilled perspective shows that the promised kingdom arrived with power in that generation, vindicating His words. For us today, this chapter calls us to faith, humility, purity, and confidence in the reigning Christ.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

- † Josephus, Wars 6.5.3
- † Philo, On the Special Laws 1.192
- † Tacitus, Histories 5.13
- † Irenaeus, Against Heresies 4.22.1

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