

Matthew 17:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

Analysis

Jesus taking 'Peter, James, and John' to 'an high mountain apart' selects an inner circle to witness His transfiguration. The 'high mountain' (traditionally Mount Tabor or Hermon) provides isolation for this revelatory event. 'After six days' (from Peter's confession, 16:16) links the transfiguration to Jesus' passion prediction—showing glory before suffering. The three disciples represent witnesses who would later testify to Jesus' divine glory (2 Peter 1:16-18).

Historical Context

Mountain settings in Scripture often mark divine encounters (Sinai, Horeb, Carmel). The six-day interval parallels Moses ascending Sinai (Exodus 24:16). Peter, James, and John formed Jesus' inner circle, present at the raising of Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:37) and in Gethsemane (Mark 14:33). They needed this strengthening vision before the cross.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. Why might Jesus select only three disciples for this experience?
2. How do mountaintop spiritual experiences prepare you for valley trials?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	μεθ'	ἡμέρας	ἕξ	παραλαμβάνει	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	τὸν
And	after	days	six	taketh	G3588	Jesus	G3588
G2532	G3326	G2250	G1803	G3880		G2424	
Πέτρον	καὶ	Ἰάκωβον	καὶ	Ἰωάννην	τὸν	ἀδελφὸν	αὐτοῦς
Peter	And	James	And	John	G3588	brother	his
G4074	G2532	G2385	G2532	G2491		G80	G846
καὶ	ἀναφέρει	αὐτοῦς	εἰς	ὄρος	ὕψηλόν	κατ'	ἰδίαν
And	bringeth	his	into	mountain	an high	apart	G2398
G2532	G399	G846	G1519	G3735	G5308	G2596	

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 26:37 (References Peter): And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

Mark 5:37 (References Peter): And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James.

2 Peter 1:18 (Parallel theme): And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

2 Corinthians 13:1 (Parallel theme): This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.

Luke 8:51 (References Peter): And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.