

## **April 23, read Mark 9:2-50**

Taking Peter, James and John, Jesus climbed a mountain to pray and there He was transfigured. Moses, representing the law, and Elijah, the prophets, were visible, audible participants in the event. But they were not the equal of Jesus. He alone summed up their Old Testament testimony.

Talk about mountain-top experiences! That was the ultimate. No wonder Peter wanted to give permanence to it. Jesus, however, led them back down into the valley where their spiritual high immediately smacked up against a low - a demonized man.

One cannot stay on the summits if he desires to meet the real needs of humanity. Brown Bannister beautifully summarized this in a song:

I go to the temple and I just want to stay  
To hide from the hustle of the world and its way ...  
But I've got to come down from that mountain top  
To the -people in the valley below,  
Or they'll never know that they can go  
To the mountain of the Lord.

The cause of Christ needs folks who know they are not of the world and yet who choose to be active, vital witnesses in the world. Those who get sufficiently involved in serving the Lord and His children don't have the time nor the inclination to argue about who is most important or to denounce those not in their particular Christian circle.

**Think: What practical steps can you take to schedule mountain-top times while remaining involved in a hurting world?**

**Pray: Lord, thank You for my mountain-top times with You, but help me to walk faithfully with You in the valley as well.**