Feb 14, 2021 – Behind the Curtain

- Looking behind the curtain, beyond the veil and behind closed doors is something we all like to see.
- ★ And that's what's taking place on the Mt of Transfiguration today. Jesus is giving Peter, James and John; and you and I; an earthly look at Jesus that is beyond His earthly form.
- ★ But now, today, on this mountain, they get to see a glimpse behind the veil of heaven; to have an earthly view of Jesus heavenly glory.
- **+** Moses was the lawgiver to the Jews.
- **+** Elijah represents the prophets.
- ★ So in these two men we have the law and the prophets giving Peter, James and John, permission to see a further reality of Jesus as the messiah.
- ★ Now, after three years with Jesus, they can better grasp this look beyond Jesus' earthly form. He has prepared them to learn from <u>now</u> 'seeing behind the veil'.
- ★ Their minds are veiled in the same way a veil hid the dimming radiance that Moses experienced after being in God's presence on Mount Sinai.
- ★ But today on the mountain of transfiguration, the radiance of Jesus is shown in as full a glory as Peter, James and John could humanly stand.
- ★ This is revealing Jesus' true God-ness along with His true humanness.
- + One of the prophecy's that speaks of this is in Malachi... "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel. 'See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.""

- ★ That great and dreadful day of judgment is what Jesus heads toward in Jerusalem after coming down this mountain.
- **†** This view, this is a *human* look beyond Jesus' *human-ness*.
- + Having Peter, James and John view this 'look behind' gives us a further confidence, comfort and assurance in Who it is that is going to the cross for our sins.
- ★ Just as Moses and Elijah had been taken to heaven without dying, so Jesus came to earth <u>to</u> die so that we don't have to suffer God's wrath for our sins
- + He has now come behind the scenes of *our* earthly life and taken on our human flesh so that He could do this work for us in our place.
- This is The God-Man. He is God's Son made plain to us by the testimony of the law – in Moses, and the prophets – in Elijah and even by the words of the Father Himself in the cloud that covered them with heavenly glory.
- This God/Man, this Jesus, who descends from this mountain today, is heading for the mount of Calvary to pay for our sins with His *truly* holy, precious and innocent blood on the cross.
- ★ We now see, not only *behind* the curtain, but Jesus' death tears the curtain in two.

+ "With a loud cry, Jesus breathed His last. The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom."

- ★ And with the tearing of that curtain, our separation from the holy of holies, the place where the glory of God dwells, has ended.
- ★ But today we are getting a glimpse of what that glory means for us in the transfiguration of Jesus.