

The Transfiguration

by John Walsh

This focuses on the son who was healed after the Transfiguration. The scene is years later when he is a grandparent. His grandchild begs him to “tell me the story one more time.” The grandfather includes the Transfiguration as he tells the story because it was common knowledge among believers by this time.

Grandpa: Come on. It is time to get to bed. If you aren't asleep in a little while, I will be in trouble with your mother.

James: Oh grandpa, I'll go asleep, but tell me a story first.

Grandpa: Well, I think your mother will let us do that. How about a Bible story? How about when Elisha met the prophets of Baal on Mt Carmel?

James: I like that story, but I don't want to hear a Bible story tonight. I want to hear how Jesus threw those demons out of you.

Grandpa: Again? How many times have I told you that story?

James: Please grandpa. I want to hear it again.

Grandpa: Well, (grandpa yawns) OK. As I have told you, Jesus was on top of the mountain with three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John.

James: James, like me.

Grandpa: Yes, and as you know, you were named after him. As I was saying before I was interrupted.

James: I'm sorry grandpa. I'll try to keep quiet.

Grandpa: Well see that you do, and try to go to sleep while I am telling this. Now where was I?

James: Your dad, my great grandpa, knew he had to do something. Demons would come and take control of your body.

Grandpa: Oh yes, that right. I couldn't talk when the demon was there. I would foam at the mouth and have convulsions. (*James: That must have been awful.*) Yes, and the demon was constantly trying to kill me. He would throw me into a fire, or sometimes into the water. (*James: Wow!*)

Your great grandpa heard that Jesus was near by, so he picked me up and carried me all the way to the bottom of the mountain. (*James: He must have been strong.*)

You're supposed to be going to sleep as I tell this story. (*James: I'm just not sleepy.*)

As I was saying (grandpa yawns), Jesus wasn't there, so my dad took me to his disciples. After all, they had been given the power to cast out demons.

James: Right, so they tried to cast out the demon, but couldn't do it.

Grandpa: Say, I thought I was supposed to be telling this story. (grandpa yawns)

James: Yah, you were, but this is the most exciting part. The disciples couldn't figure out what was wrong, and then the scribes started arguing with them. (*increased excitement - grandpa yawns again*) Great grandpa became discouraged and almost gave up hope. Suddenly Jesus came down from the mountain and your dad went over and begged him to help you. (*grandpa closes eyes*) He said to Jesus, "Your disciples couldn't help."

Jesus said, (*said with a big voice*) "Bring the child to me." Jesus demanded the demons to leave, (*big hand motions - grandpa quiet*) they took you and threw you to the ground, and you started foaming that the mouth. Jesus said, (*said with a big voice*) "Come out of him." Then what happened grandpa? ... Grandpa? ... Grandpa!

Mother: Young man, why are you still up? Where is your grandpa? (*grandpa snores*)