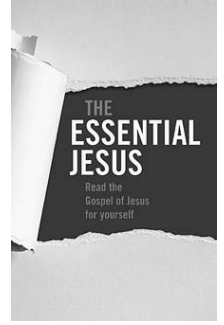




ESSENTIAL JESUS

Bible Study 18

Archbishop Peter Jensen



STEP 1: READING

Read Luke chapter 9, verses 28-62.

STEP 2: REFLECTION

If Jesus came to announce the kingdom of God, where is it? His mighty deeds were a foretaste, but he is no longer here in person to raise the dead and feed the multitudes. Briefly, three disciples experienced a vision of the glory to come. They saw Moses and Elijah. They saw Jesus transformed with a heavenly brilliance. God centred all their attention on his unique Son, greater even than Moses. Then it was over, and they were back to the earthly reality, of lack of faith and sin and foolishness and rejection. This is our world, too, but it now has the hope of glory to come. Meanwhile, the followers of Jesus are have a single-minded commitment which puts him even above the burial of a father. The present form of the kingdom is Jesus: to be his disciple is to be in the kingdom of God.

STEP 3: DISCUSSION

1 What is the significance of the subject which Jesus spoke to Elijah and Moses about, 'his departure, which he was to complete in Jerusalem'? Note also the later words, 'When the time was drawing near for him to be taken up...' What is chiefly in Jesus mind?

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2 What does the appearance of Moses and Elijah have to tell us about what God is doing through Jesus?

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3 Why would the disciples be disputing about who was the greatest? How can someone become the least among them?

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