

THE TRANSFIGURATION, 2026

JESUS TRANSFIGURED. JESUS FULL OF DAZZLING LIGHT ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP. I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THIS GOSPEL STORY LOOKED FORWARD TO EASTER. WE ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN THE SEASON OF LENT, OUR PREPARATION FOR EASTER. SO, IT SEEMED TO MAKE SENSE THAT JESUS FULL OF DAZZLING LIGHT LOOKED FORWARD TO EASTER, JESUS RISEN. I DON'T THINK THIS WAY ANYMORE. I DON'T THINK THIS STORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS IS A KIND OF PREVIEW OF EASTER. I THINK THIS IS THE LAST CHRISTMAS STORY. THIS STORY CLOSES OUT THE SEASON OF THE EPIPHANY, THE GOSPEL STORIES OF THESE PAST WEEKS OPENED OUR EYES TO WHO THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM WAS. THIS SEASON ENDS WITH THIS STORY OF JESUS TRANSFIGURED, JESUS FULL OF DAZZLING LIGHT, THE FINAL STORY THAT REVEALS WHO WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM. I REALLY WANT TO SAY IT IS THE FINAL STORY THAT REVEALS NOT ONLY WHO WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM BUT ALSO WHAT---WHAT--- WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM--- NEW THINGS, A NEW WAY OF LIVING AND A NEW WAY OF LOVING, A NEW FULLY DEVELOPING HUMANITY. A NEW WORLD. I ALWAYS THOUGHT JESUS FULL OF

DAZZLING LIGHT MEANT TO REVEAL GOD HIMSELF WAS SHINING THRU HIM. I DON'T THINK THAT ANYMORE. I THINK IT WAS THE NEW HUMANITY SHINING THRU HIM, THE REVELATION OF WHAT THE MESSAGE AND MISSION OF JESUS WERE AND ARE ALL ABOUT. THE EVERLASTING LIGHT THAT SHINETH IN BETHLEHEM'S DARK STREET. I THINK WHAT WE HUMAN BEINGS HAVE BEEN CREATED TO BECOME, WE WHO ARE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE, WAS SHINING THRU HIM. ACTUALLY, I THINK THIS IS WHAT THE DISCIPLES SLOWLY BUT SURELY CAME TO UNDERSTAND. THE STORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION TELLS US THAT THE DISCIPLES CAME TO UNDERSTAND, AND AS WE MUST COME TO UNDERSTAND, THAT THE SPIRIT WHO WAS IN JESUS, THAT SAME POWER DWELLED IN THEM. IT WAS DAWNING ON THEM, AS IT MUST DAWN ON US, THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS TO COME IN THE HERE AND NOW. IT WAS DAWNING ON THEM, AS IT MUST DAWN ON US, THAT THE STUFF OF THIS WORLD AND THE STUFF OF OUR LIVES ARE THE STUFF OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. IT WAS DAWNING ON THEM, AS IT MUST DAWN ON US, THAT IT WAS IN THEIR HANDS TO TEACH AND ESTABLISH A NEW JUSTICE, A NEW RIGHTEOUSNESS, A NEW WAY OF THINKING, A NEW WAY OF

LIVING, A NEW WAY OF LOVING, A NEW WAY OF BEING HUMAN AND SO A NEW WORLD. IT WAS DAWNING ON THEM, AS IT MUST DAWN ON US, THAT THEY HAD TO LET GO OF WHAT THEY KNEW AND WHAT THEY WERE USED TO, AS WE MUST LET GO OF WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE ARE USED TO. THEY HAD TO LET GO OF THEIR CERTAINTY AND SECURITY, AND SO DO WE.

BUT---BUT--- OVER TIME WE BECAME ABSORBED IN DOCTRINES AND DOGMAS AND CREEDS, THINGS OF THE MIND, AS IF THESE WERE WHAT THE MESSAGE AND MISSION OF JESUS, ENTRUSTED TO THE DISCIPLES, AND TO US, WERE ALL ABOUT. WE HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE DOCTRINES AND THE DOGMAS AND THE CREEDS HAVE BEEN STAGES, STEPS, IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR FAITH, AN UNDERSTANDING THAT POINTS TOWARD AN EXPERIENCE, A HUMANITY, A WORLD, THESE DOCTRINES AND DOGMAS AND CREEDS DO NOT CAPTURE. KNOWING JESUS REVEALS A VISION OF A NEW HUMANITY, A VISION OF WHAT IT TRULY MEANS THAT WE ARE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. JESUS CALLED US TO STEP INTO THE DIVINE POWER WITHIN US BY STEPPING INTO WHAT COULD BE AND INTO OUR FULL HUMANITY. JESUS REVEALED THAT WE ARE MEANT NOT TO BE HELD BACK

**BY ANYTHING THAT SEEMS TO BIND HUMAN LIFE. IN JESUS
TRANSFIGURED A NEW HUMANITY, THE FULLNESS OF HUMANITY
SHINES THRU, A NEW CONSCIOUSNESS, A NEW ORDER OF BEING.
A NEW WORLD, JESUS CAME NOT TO SAVE US FROM WHAT WE
ARE NOT BUT TO EMPOWER US TO BECOME WHOM WE ARE
CREATED AND CALLED TO BE. (R)**

**AND SO, WHAT IS THIS NEW HUMANITY, THIS FULLNESS OF BEING
HUMAN. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH
MALE AND FEMALE, MEN AND WOMEN, ARE TRULY EQUAL,
TOTALLY EQUAL. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH YOU CAN TELL YOUR
FIVE YEAR OLD GRANDAUGHTER SHE COULD ONE DAY BE
PRESIDENT OF THE USA ; IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH SLAVERY OF
ALL KINDS HAS DISAPPEARED. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH
RACISM AND PREJUDICE NO LONGER RAISE THEIR UGLY HEADS
AND THE COLOR OF A PERSON'S SKIN OR A PERSON'S HERITAGE
DO NOT DISCRIMINATE IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH OUR GAY AND
TRANSGENDER SISTERS AND BROTHERS ARE EMBRACED, AND
GAY WEDDINGS ARE ON THE REGULAR CALENDAR AT
WESTMINSTER ABBEY IN LONDON, AT ST, PETER'S BASILICA IN**

ROME AND AT THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION IN WAKEFIELD. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH WAR WILL BE NO MORE, AND THE MILITARY ARE AT A BARE MINIMUM AND WHEN THE MILITARY NO LONGER PARADES. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH NATIONS KNOW THEIR GREATNESS IS NOT IN STANDING ALONE BUT IN JOINING HANDS AND HEARTS WITH THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH THE POOR, THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, THE SICK, ARE THE PRIORITY OF OUR SOCIETY. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH GOVERNMENT AT EVERY LEVEL PUTS PEOPLE FIRST, THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS, NEEDS AND DREAMS FIRST. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH EVERYONE AND ALL AGENCIES AND OFFICES ACKNOWLEDGE OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR THIS EARTH OUR ISLAND HOME, IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH NO SINFUL DEED, NO CRIME, PUTS ANYONE BEYOND HOPE. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH OUR DIFFERENCES AND DIVERSITY ARE HONORED. IT IS A HUMANITY IN WHICH PEOPLE STEP BEYOND EVERY BARRIER AND SEE, TRULY DARE TO SEE, WHAT GOD HAS CREATED US TO BE.

I HAVE COME, JESUS SAYS TO US THAT YOU MAY HAVE LIFE AND LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY. THIS IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD. THIS IS

THE KINGDOM OF GOD. PERSONALLY, THIS IS WHAT I HAVE COME TO BELIEVE JESUS IN DAZZLING LIGHT REVEALS TO THE DISCIPLES AND TO US AND TO THE WORLD.

- ALONG THE WAY THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS---WE--- LOST TOO MUCH OF THE DAZZLING LIGHT OF JESUS, THE DAZZLING LIGHT OF THE NEW HUMANITY, THE DAZZLING LIGHT OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, THE DAZZLING LIGHT THAT WE ARE SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF JESUS THE CHRIST, AND PARTNERS WITH GOD OUR CREATOR TO BUILD THE EARTH. WHAT DAWNED ON THE DISCIPLES, FADED, AND THE DAZZLING LIGHT OF WHAT IT TRULY MEANS TO BE HUMAN DIMMED, AND AT TIMES EVEN ALMOST WENT OUT. (DOLCE)**

THE CROSS ON THE STEEPLES OF OUR CHURCHES SHOULD BE TELLING THE WORLD, PEOPLE WIDE OPEN TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD MEET IN HERE, REVOLUTIONARIES MEET IN HERE, PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE TRUTH MATTERS, ABOVE ALL TRUTH MATTERS, MEET IN HERE; PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH SCIENCE MEET IN HERE; PEOPLE COMMITTED TO RADICAL CHANGE MEET IN HERE, PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN THE DIVINE POWER WITHIN US MEET IN HERE, PEOPLE WHO REJOICE IN THE

**DAZZLING LIGHT OF JESUS AND THE NEW HUMANITY THAT SHINES
IN HIM MEET IN HERE. (DOLCE)**

**WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS CAME TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. BUT
IT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY TO BE THAT HUMAN. IT CAN APPEAR TOO
CHALLENGING TO BE THAT HUMAN. IT CAN FEEL TOO STRANGE---
TOO NEW--TO BECOME FULLY HUMAN. FOR MANY, AND MAYBE
FOR TOO MANY, THE DAZZLING LIGHT OF JESUS AND THE NEW
HUMANITY CAN BE TOO BRIGHT AND THE HUMAN REVOLUTION
TOO MUCH TO BELIEVE IN, AND WE THE REVOLUTIONARIES, WE
WHO BY GOD'S GRACE ARE DRAWN TO THE LIGHT AND PRAY AND
WORK TO LIVE IN THE LIGHT, WHO BELIEVE IN THE NEW
HUMANITY THAT SHINES IN JESUS, CAN BE CALLED FOOLISH,
DANGEROUS, EVEN HERETICS, AND WHAT'S THE WORD? WOKE.
SO, THE CROWD DRAWS A CIRCLE THAT SHUTS US OUT, THINGS,
PEOPLE, BELIEVERS, TO FLOUT. BUT WITH FAITH AND LOVE WE
HAVE THE WIT---THE DAZZLING LIGHT--- TO WIN. LET US DRAW A
LARGER CIRCLE THAT TAKES ALL OF THEM IN.**

**LET ME END WITH THIS. FREDERICK MAURICE WAS AN ANGLICAN
PRIEST; HE LIVED, TAUGHT, PREACHED AND WROTE IN THE**

1800'S; HE WAS A TRUE REVOLUTIONARY. THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH REMEMBERS AND HONORS HIM EVERY YEAR ON APRIL 1. IN A BOOK DESCRIBING THE WAY HE THOUGHT AND LIVED, I FOUND THIS COMMENT: ECHOING SAINT PAUL, MAURICE WROTE YOU WILL HAVE TO BATTLE...WITH PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS, WITH THE RULERS AND SPIRITUAL WICKEDNESS IN HIGH PLACES. THESE FORCES WILL TRY TO PERSUADE YOU THAT ALL IS LOST. BUT GOD'S BLESSING HAS ALREADY BEEN WON FOR US BY JESUS THE CHRIST...TO BE A FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN IS NOT ABOUT DOCTRINE AND CREEDS, IT IS TO BE SET ALIGHT BY THE FIRE OF GOD...SYSTEMS AND OPINIONS AND FORMS OF SOCIETY MAY GO...BUT GLORY BE TO HIM WHO HAS BEEN FROM AGE TO AGE THE REFUGE OF THE POOR, THE HELP OF THE NEEDY, THE NAME OF TRUTH AND LOVE, WHEN THEY SEEMED BANISHED FROM THE WORLD.

AMEN.
