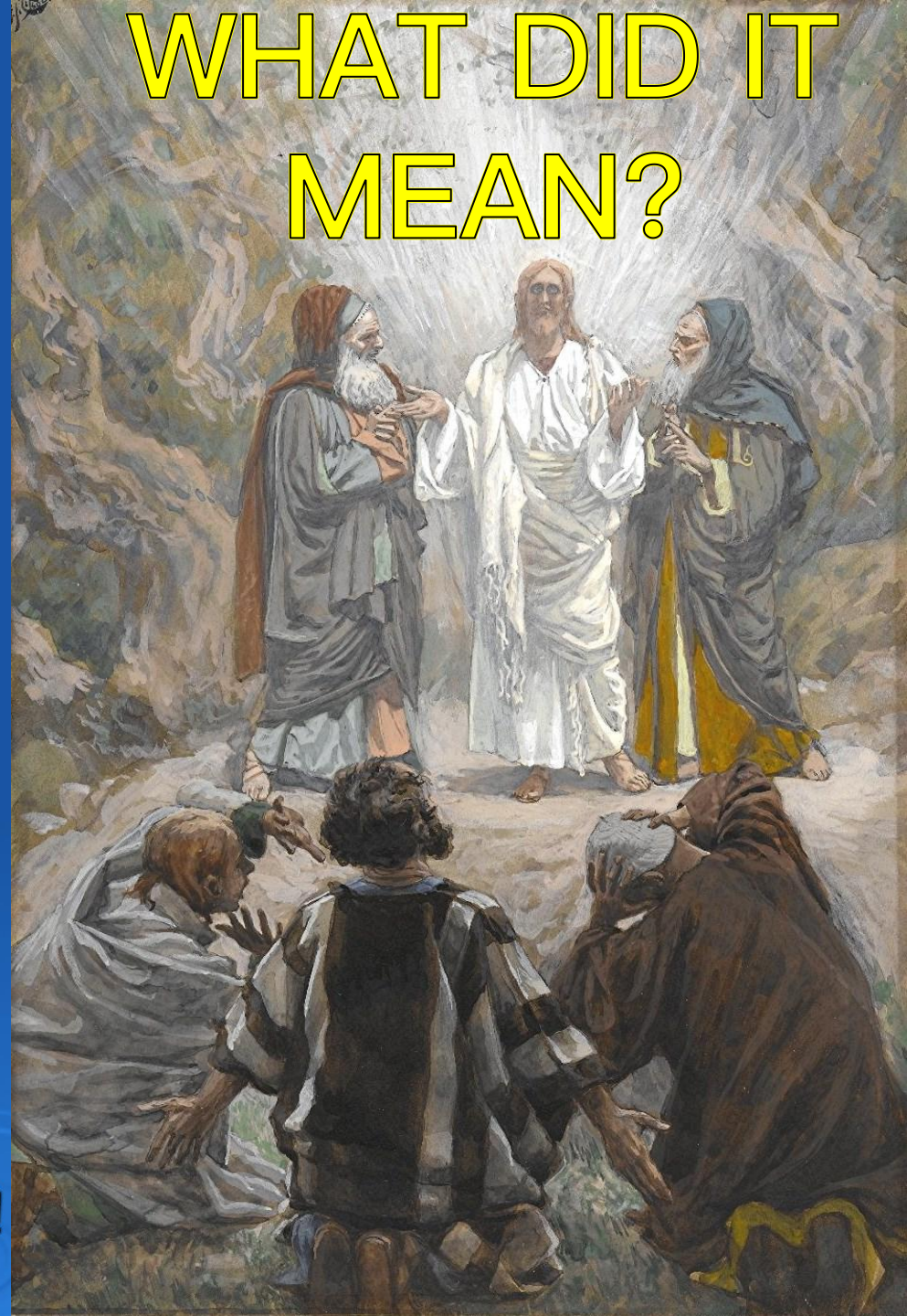


WHAT DID IT MEAN?



- Not stated in the Gospels what The Transfiguration was to mean to the disciples
- Did the authors of the Gospels not know?
- Life after death was an unsettled matter of ongoing debate
- **First Point:** 2 groups were meant to benefit...
The 3 witnesses, and Moses and Elijah
- What Moses and Elijah represented remained alive and relevant
- Not a replacement ceremony!

➤ Second Point:

Comes from the puzzling descent of Christ to Abraham's Bosom

➤ What happened to people who died in the OT era?

➤ Righteous souls in Abraham's Bosom were set free (redeemed)

➤ Moses and Elijah were humans who also had to be set free (redeemed)

➤ Moses and Elijah the first to be set free

➤ Only later would Yeshua set free those in Abraham's Bosom



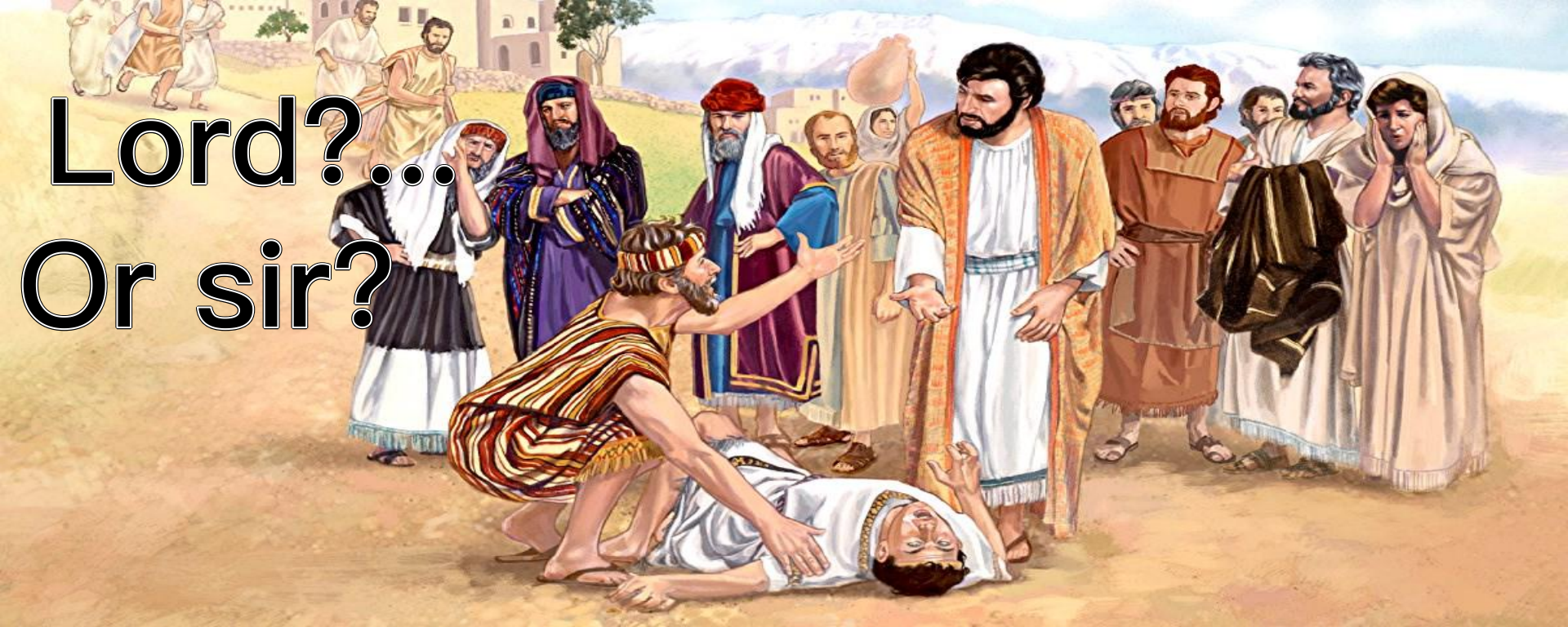
3 GOSPELS, 3 VIEWPOINTS



- Main issue: can the disciples heal like Jesus heals?
- Mark 9:14 – 29
- Mark's is twice the length of Matthew's story
- Each Gospel writer more or less wordy than another, chooses different events to report on
- Mark's Gospel the least Jewish oriented, most critical of Jews, Judaism
- Matthew's Gospel the most Jewish oriented, least critical of disciples or Jews in general
- Luke's Gospel the middle ground. Sympathy & affinity for the Jewish people, but from a gentile worldview

Lord?...

Or sir?



- Crowds still coming to be healed by the *Tzadik*
- We should NOT read salvation into these healings
- *Solemiazomai* = moon-struck = lunatic
- Mark's Gospel begins differently
- Some of Yeshua's disciples tried healing the boy, but failed
- *Apistos kia diastrepho genea* = faithless and perverted generation
- Refers to all Jews blind to signs of the Latter Days

“Bring him here to Me..”

- Yeshua rebukes the demon and it leaves
- Mark goes another direction Mark 9:20 – 27
- The father doubts Jesus can do the miracle
- In Matthew, the father falls to his knees to beg Yeshua to heal his son
- What KIND of trust?
- It cannot be trust that Yeshua is the Messiah
- Yeshua says the disciples couldn't heal the boy due to “little faith”



“Literal...is ludicrous”

- Not a Parable so can have many facets of meaning
- Mustard seed = tiny object
- Mountain = largest object
- Small trust can do big things, great trust can do great things
- Trust, faith, belief
- All stem from the Greek word *pistis*
- Issue: what do those 3 words mean to us in modern English usage?



TRUST



BELIEVE



FAITH



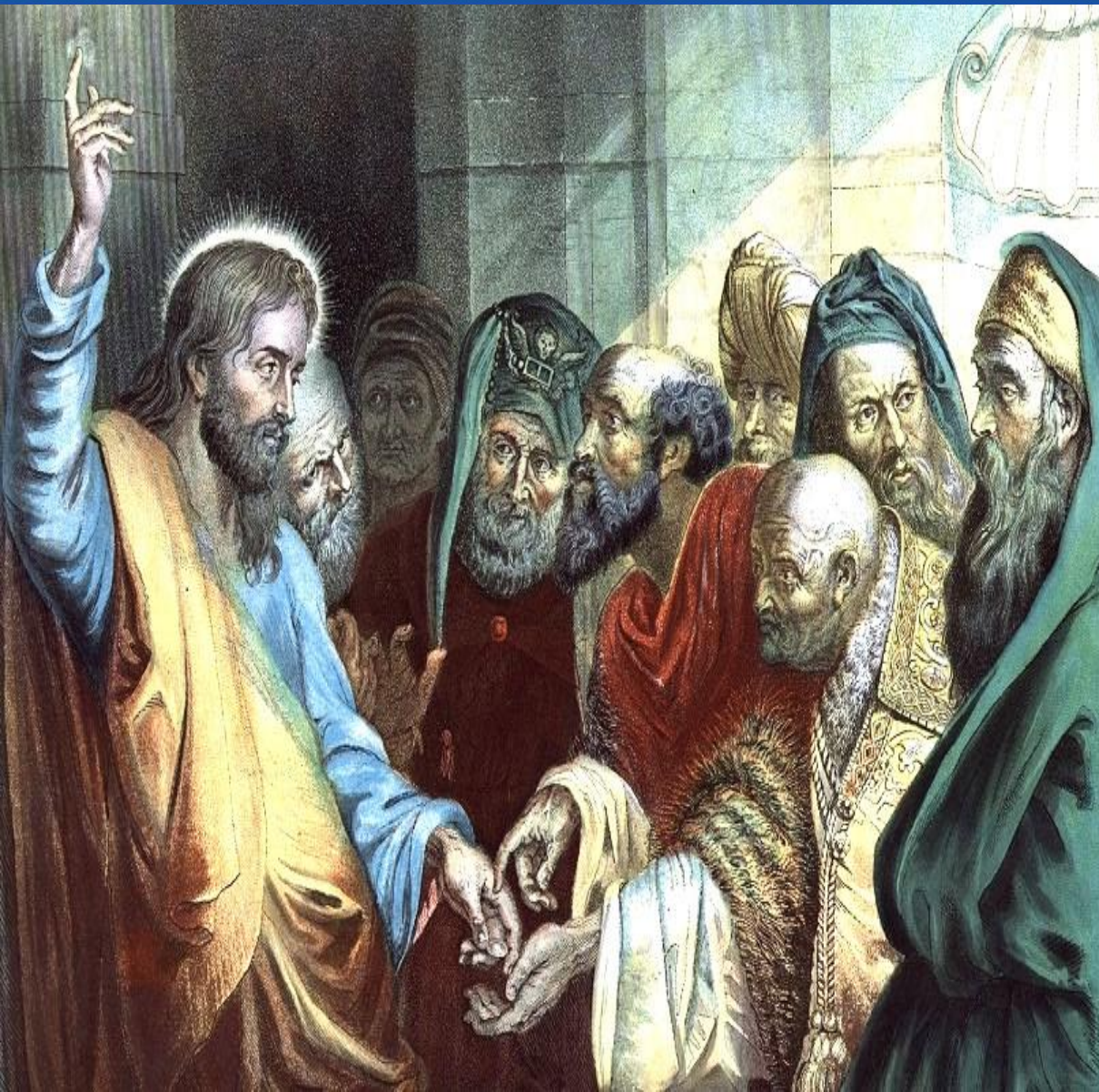
- Trust = depending on something with firm conviction; morality; will not fail me
- Believe = acknowledge something is as we perceive it; it exists; does not have to involve morality
- Faith = overriding hope in something not yet realized, and may never be realized. Allows a switch in what we hope for.

PRAYER & FASTING



- Vs. 21 not in all Greek manuscripts Mark 9:29
- When it is present in Matthew, it is about the issue of trust
- Vss. 22 & 23 Suspected work of a later editor
- It tells again of Yeshua predicting His death, which is precipitated by a betrayal
- No mention, yet, of the method of execution

TO PAY OR NOT TO PAY... THAT IS THE QUESTION



- Probably happened in Adar (March)
- Yeshua is back in Capernaum
- Galileans didn't like paying because it went to the corrupt Priesthood
- Kings exempt their own sons from taxes
- Yeshua says then the sons are exempt
- Assumed it is a "Temple" tax
- 2 Drachmas = $\frac{1}{2}$ shekel