"You Won't Believe What I Just Experienced But You Don't Really Have To" 1st Corinthians 1:18; *Matthew 17:1-27; 2nd Peter 1:16-21*

The Gospel is not simply a system; it's a salvation proclamation involving a Person; salvation is a Person.

When you deemphasize the Gospel, you deemphasize the Person of the Gospel and therefore, you are no longer focused on Jesus Christ; only occupied with yourself and not thinking about the Lord at all.

The Jews don't understand the distinction between the suffering Messiah and the glorified Messiah and the fact that Messiah's Cross had to come before His Crown.

Pleasant circumstances do not make for lasting happiness in the life of a believer.

Peter wanted a superficial, physical, lasting mountain-top experience instead of carrying his mountain-top attitude around in his soul.

The beautiful thing about the grace of God on this occasion is that God the Father simply shut Peter up as he was speaking!

What Jesus Christ has to say is very important and if we're going to learn anything from it, then we better get our eyes on the Lord and keep them there.

We have something very special in the Word of God and we have it in doctrinal form and it's literally more reliable than our experiencing anything; more reliable than seeing the most spectacular scene with our own eyes or hearing the omnipotent voice of God with our own ears!

The Bible is completely reliable because it's God's Word and if we have biblical truth in our souls; with whatever we see or whatever we hear in life, we'll be able to discern whether it's God's plan or it's satanic in nature or whether it's man's imagination from man's devices or whatever else it happens to be.

The scribes were theologians but their system of theology was not biblically oriented because they only believed in one Advent of Messiah.

Emotions as a responder to truth are wonderful but emotions as our dictator distort everything in life and lead to misery in every area of life.

By way of our own choices in life, it can be pleasant wherever we are under any conditions
or circumstances.

The removal of the demon which was the source of the illness, removes the illness.
Any believer can have happiness anywhere at any time under any circumstances!
If you want to be miserable, let your emotions run your life.
When our emotions rule us as our master, then we get into trouble and we couldn't be further from what we were seeking in the first place, inner lasting happiness.
If we're ever going to have the level of peace and soul prosperity God wants for us, it has to come through the application of the infallible Words of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
We can't have a soul inventory of biblical truth in us and be worried at the same time and Simon is about to fall apart because he now has this delinquent income tax bill on his mind and it's haunting him.
The Lord Jesus sets the bar high for us in that we as His Church Age disciples above all people should be blameless and upright with an abundance of integrity regarding our fellow citizens here as well as the government of the United States under whomever might be in power.