

### 1. Matthew 17:1-8:

- Matthew includes details in his Transfiguration story that are not found in either Mark (9:2-8) or Luke (9:28-36):
  - Why the different information?
  - Matthew has something in mind that he wants to communicate to his audience.
  - Read **Daniel 10:4-12** and compare it to the events in Matthew.

### 2. The Heavenly Righteous and Extra-Biblical Writings:

- **Apocrypha** – both Eastern Orthodox and Catholics include Apocryphal writings in their bible. Protestant bibles were initially printed with the Apocrypha included, but that practice was discontinued in full by the 1800s.<sup>1</sup> These books were written in Greek and therefore not included in the Jewish canon.
- **Pseudepigrapha** - a body of writings, written under the pseudonym of a heroic figure in the past (i.e., Moses, Abraham, or Enoch).<sup>2</sup>
- **Dead Sea Scrolls** – written by a Jewish sect – likely the Essenes – who separated themselves from the temple in Jerusalem to form their own community.
- **Philo and Josephus** – Jewish authors from the first century who retell the stories of the Old Testament and Jewish history. The retellings often include popular folklore that developed over time.

### 3. 1 Enoch 62:15:

15 The righteous and elect ones shall rise from the earth and shall cease being of downcast face. They shall wear the garments of glory. 16 These garments of yours shall become the garments of life from the Lord of the Spirits. Neither shall your garments wear out, nor your glory come to an end before the Lord of the Spirits.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Apocrypha-Books/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://pseudepigrapha.org/>

<sup>3</sup> James H. Charlesworth, *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, vol. 1 (New York; London: Yale University Press, 1983), 44.

#### 4. First Adam/Last Adam:

- 1 Corinthians 15:44b-49

#### 5. Adam and Eve – Beings of Light:

- Jewish and Christian writings depict Adam and Eve as luminous beings clothed in God's glory.
- **Genesis Rabbah 20:12**

“this refers to Adams Garments, which were like a torch [shedding radiance] ....”<sup>4</sup>

- **Leviticus Rabbah 20:2**

“The apple of Adam’s heel outshone the globe of the sun; how much more so the brightness of his face!”<sup>5</sup>

- **Apocalypse of Moses**

And I bent down the branch to the ground, and took of the fruit, and ate. And in that very hour mine eyes were opened, and I knew that I was stripped of the righteousness with which I had been clothed; and I wept, saying, what is this thou hast done to me, because I have been deprived of the glory with which I was clothed?<sup>6</sup>

- Ephraim the Syrian – Commentary on Genesis 2:14:

It was because of the glory with which they were clothed that they were not ashamed. It was when this glory was stripped from them after they had transgressed the commandment that they were ashamed because they were naked.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Genesis Rabbah: <https://archive.org/details/RabbaGenesis/page/n217/mode/2up> (page 171).

<sup>5</sup> Leviticus Rabbah: <https://archive.org/details/midrashrabbah0000unse/page/252/mode/2up> (page 252).

<sup>6</sup> Alexander Roberts, James Donaldson, and A. Cleveland Coxe, eds., *Fathers of the Third and Fourth Centuries: The Twelve Patriarchs, Excerpts and Epistles, the Clementina, Apocrypha, Decretals, Memoirs of Edessa and Syriac Documents, Remains of the First Ages*, vol. 8, *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Company, 1886).

<sup>7</sup> <http://116.203.245.78/Talcuirea%20Sf%20Scripturi/Texte%20exegetice%20ale%20Sf%20Scripturi%20-%20adiacente/Commentary%20on%20Genesis%20by%20Saint%20Ephraim%20the%20Syrian.pdf>

6. Sin = Loss of Glory.

- In the days of the Messiah, the glory that Adam lost will be restored.
- **Numbers Rabbah 13:12**

“The following things were taken from Adam: his luster...”

“Now how can we infer that above things are to be restored in the days of the Messiah? ‘His luster’ we can infer from the text, “But may all who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength.”<sup>8</sup>  
 Judges 5:31

7. Hebrew Words for Light and Skin

Light	Skin
Or	Or
אור	עור
Resh – Vav – Aleph	Resh – Vav - Ayin
God = Elohim, Adonai	Eye – Spring
Light from God/Invisible	Visible Light

- **Genesis 3:21**
- **Genesis Rabbah 20:12**

AND THE LORD GOD MADE FOR ADAM AND HIS WIFE GARMENTS OF SKIN (OR), AND CLOTHED THEM.

In R. Meir’s Torah, it was found written, *Garments of light* (or): “this refers to Adams Garments, which were like a torch [shedding radiance] ....”

- **Matthew 6:22-23**

8. Science proving that we are Beings of Light?<sup>9</sup>

- The Hidden Face of God, Gerald L. Schroeder
- The Physics of God, Joseph Selbie

9. Increase our ability to reflect God’s light into the world!

- Read **1 Cor. 3:18**: As we mature in our Christian faith, we are to increasingly reflect God’s glory into the darkness of the world.

<sup>8</sup> Numbers Rabbah: [https://archive.org/details/midrashrabbah0000unse\\_o7k3/page/522/mode/2up](https://archive.org/details/midrashrabbah0000unse_o7k3/page/522/mode/2up) (page 523).

<sup>9</sup> NBC News July 22, 2009. <https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna32090918>