

## For the Love of an Imperative Verb

### Matthew 17:1-9

*The Last Sunday after the Epiphany, Year A, RCL*

<sup>1</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>**Suddenly** [ἰδοὺ, **idou̓**] there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, **suddenly** [ἰδοὺ, **idou̓**] a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with him I am well pleased; **listen** [ἀκούετε, **akou̓ete**] to him!” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “**Get up** [ἐγέρθητε, **egérthēte**] and **do** not **be afraid** [φοβεῖσθε, **phobeísthe**].” <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” [NRSV89]

#### 17:3

ἰδοὺ, **idou̓**; *vb*: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor mid **imperative** 2<sup>nd</sup> pers sg from ὁράω:

translations: **suddenly** [NRSV89, NJB, NRSVue], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV; Filson], **just then** [NIV11], **he aquí** [IAdNT]; not translated in Albright & Mann

#### 17:5

ἰδοὺ, **idou̓**; *vb*: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor mid **imperative** 2<sup>nd</sup> pers sg from ὁράω:

translations: **suddenly** [NRSV89, NJB, NRSVue], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV; Filson], **he aquí** [IAdNT], not translated in NIV11 or Albright & Mann

ἀκούετε, **akou̓ete**; *vb*: pres act **imperative** 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl from ἀκούω:

translations: **listen** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], also **hear** [NKJV; Filson], **oíd** [IAdNT]

Albright & Mann: Cf. Deut. 18:15; and also Acts 3:22ff., 7:37.

#### 17:7

ἐγέρθητε, **egérthēte**; *vb*: aor pass **imperative** 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl from ἐγείρω:

translations: **get up** [NRSV89, NIV11, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], also **arise** [NGEINT, NKJV], **rise** [ESV, NAB; Filson], **stand up** [NJB], **levantaos** [IAdNT]

φοβεῖσθε, **phobeîsthe**; *vb: pres mid / pass imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from φοβέω  
translations: **do** [not] **be afraid** [NRSV89, NAB, NGEINT, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright  
& Mann, Filson], **do**[n't] **be afraid** [NIV11], also **have** [no] **fear** [ESV], **temáis**  
[IAAdNT]

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