

Sermon Summary
Transfiguration
4th August 2013

- The feast of the Transfiguration falls on the same day as the dropping of the A-Bomb on Japan.
- The two events reveal the difference between God and humanity can do.
- Humans are capable of great invention, and of great generosity, but it comes at a t cost.
- A donor card, and I am not knocking them, can give hope to many through the gift of organs from the donor to potential recipients.
- But this gift always comes at a cost: the life of the donor. Humans may be able to create, but always at a cost.
- The Transfiguration reveals Jesus as more than human, and comes at a point in the gospels when he is also trying to convince the disciples of his fate: he understands that he goes to Jerusalem to suffer and die.
- I do not say he needs to do it, because he chooses to do it. His love would be a much less noble act if it were forced on him by circumstance. But Jesus, as John reminds us, is always master of his own destiny.
- His death will come at the cost of his own life, but that cost is recovered by the resurrection. God truly has a power to give without loss to his people.
- Herein lies the limits under which we must accept that we live.
- In our modern society, we increasingly think that we have the power to act like God. To make and finish life.
- But in fact we do not.
- There will always be a difference in quality between what we think we are capable of doing, and what God can do.
- One of the hard lessons our race must learn is to accept our limitations and recognise our need for God.

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