

## The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality #10

A Time for Prayer and Solace

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

### Chapter 5 Sinai and Tabor

This chapter will argue that the juxtaposition of these two mountains in icons of the transfiguration serves the purpose in Christian history of reconciling tensions between old covenant and new, Jewish and Christian identities, the experience of finding oneself naked, empty and lost before God on Sinai and the experience of being clothed in light, filled with the image of Christ, and restored to new life on Tabor. (p. 125).

“...the viewers own humanity is translated into something never before imagined.” (p. 128).

“Sinai is a mountain that seems to forbid entry.” (p.128-129).

“What could be better, after all, than walking the Sinai in the company of one’s own silence?” (p. 129).

“Part of the amazement at the transfiguration was that, in seeing Jesus, they also saw themselves anew.” (p.132).

“Wilderness holds answers to more questions than we yet know to ask.” (p. 132).

“Only in going up the mountain, rejecting and being rejected by the world, identifying with those who are most broken, does one encounter the divine refulgence.” (p. 136).

“The way to glory is unavoidably the way of the cross, the path toward emptiness.” (p. 138).

Next Wednesday, January 12, we will turn to Part III.