

PRIEST BY DAY, WRESTLER BY NIGHT

Father Sergio Benitez was widely known in Mexico as a caring priest who operated a small orphanage.

At least, that was his identity by day. By night, the good father was somebody else altogether.

Unknown to his flock, Father Benitez at night would put on a showy mask and cape and transform himself into a professional wrestler named Fray Tormenta, or Friar Storm. You might be familiar with his story. His life is the basis for the movie *Nacho Libre*.

For almost 23 years, Father Benitez hid his identity from his fans. He only began wrestling to earn prize money to keep his orphanage running. Eventually, another wrestler discovered Father Benitez' true identity and gave away his secret. By then, Father Benitez was ready to retire from the ring anyway.



Many of the former orphans under Father Benitez' care went on to productive, successful lives. One of these former orphans is now a criminal law specialist in the city of Hidalgo. That is his identity in the daytime. But at night, he transforms himself into a masked wrestler by the name of Fray Tormenta Jr. in honor of the priest who fought on his behalf.

Peter, James and John, two of Jesus' closest disciples, got a peek at Jesus' true identity – that He was God revealed in human flesh.

The account is shared in the 17th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus had taken these three disciples up on a high mountain by themselves. Verse 2 says: “He (Jesus) was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.”

Verse 5 adds: “A bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!’”

Jesus *is* God revealed in human flesh. That is a crucial truth. It means that anything He imparts is absolute truth. Any plan He sets forth is unquestionable, unshakeable, set in stone. Any action He performs or word He speaks is absolutely holy and meant to express the heart and mind of God.

(more)

In a world filled with untruths, pursuit of selfish agendas, and a contempt and rejection of God's Word, it is important to know there is truth that can be relied upon. And it is the way of salvation and eternal life.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:6 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter