

**Title:** Behold His Glory

**Passage:** John 1:14-18

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Key Truths:

- Incarnation = The uncreated Creator clothed Himself into Creation.
- God abounds in compassion and love. He is always gracious and grounded in truth.
- Everyone who is in Christ has Him who is full of grace.
- We look to the Son of God where God, in His grace, punished the guilty.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- What insights can you gain as seeing Jesus as God's Word?
- Describe God's grace in your own words. How have you seen it in your life?
- How should being a continuous recipient of God's grace affect our lives?
- James 1:22 admonishes us to be “doers of the Word.” What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?

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**Introduction**

Do you want God explained to you? Where would you go to have God explained to you? To whom do you listen? How do you learn of God?

How did a fisherman know God in such a way that he wrote the book of the Gospel of John?

What would God be like in 2025?

**Passage:**

John 1:14–18

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John \*bore witness about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has been ahead of me, for He existed before me.’” For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

**EXPOSITION**

John 1:14

***“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”***

***The Word***

### John 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

### Genesis 15:1

After these things the word of Yahweh came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

- The Word of Yahweh also came to others (Moses, David, etc.)

### Psalm 33:4, 6-7, 9, 11

"For the word of Yahweh is upright, And all His work is done in faithfulness. By the word of Yahweh the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; He lays up the deeps in storehouses. For He spoke, and it was; He commanded, and it stood. The counsel of Yahweh stands forever, The thoughts of His heart from generation to generation."

- How does the Word "go" or "stand" or "calls"?
  - Ordinary words are normal sentences spoken.
  - But the Word of God alone is a Person.

### ***And the Word became flesh***

- Incarnation = God became "meat" / bone and flesh.
  - The uncreated Creator clothed Himself into Creation.

### ***and dwelt among us,***

- Jesus came down to us.
  - He attended weddings and festivals.
  - He got tired and thirsty.
  - He sits and speaks with sinners.
  - He loved Scripture.
  - He enjoyed meals - He was going to, provided, and went from them.
  - He walked everywhere.
  - He loves us.

***and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."***

### Matthew 17:1-2

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

- Transfiguration of Jesus.
  - John did see the glory of God.

Compare:

### Exodus 33:8-10

“And it happened whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent. And it happened whenever Moses entered the tent, that the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and Yahweh would speak with Moses. And all the people would see the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent. And all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent.”

### Exodus 33:18-23

“Then Moses said, “I pray You, show me Your glory!” And He said, “I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of Yahweh before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show compassion on whom I will show compassion.” But He said, “You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!” Then Yahweh said, “Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand there on the rock; and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove My hand, and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen.””

- What was previously seen in part by Moses has now come more fully in Jesus.

### Exodus 34:6

“Then Yahweh passed by in front of him and called out, “Yahweh, Yahweh God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth;”

### Psalms 103:1-2, 4-5, 11-12

“Bless Yahweh, O my soul, And all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless Yahweh, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits...Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; Who satisfies your years with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle...For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.”

- God abounds in compassion and love. He is always gracious and grounded in truth.

### Hebrews 11:17

“By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only son,”

**John 1:15**

***“John \*bore witness about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has been ahead of me, for He existed before me.’””***

- Parenthetical statement.
  - referred to John the Baptist.

**John 1:16**

***“For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.”***

- Everyone who is in Christ has Him who is full of grace.

**John 3:34**

For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure.

**Romans 5:15**

But the gracious gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

**Romans 5:17**

For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

**Romans 5:21**

so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Ephesians 2:7**

“so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

**John 1:17**

***For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.***

**Exodus 34:7**

who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression, and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”

How can God provide both grace and truth? How can God both be gracious and just?

- See...

**John 1:18**

***“No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.”***

- We look to the Son of God where God, in His grace, punished the guilty.

**1 Peter 3:18**

“For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that He might bring you to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;”

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”