



water from rock

Selah: Stop, Look, Listen- December 16, 2023

The Lord be with you.

Sunday school teacher, Mrs Wilson was walking from desk to desk watching her pupils working on their lessons. When she paused at one desk where, where there was a little boy, he was just working away and, and, and, and she asked the boy what he was doing and proudly, he said, I'm drawing a picture of God, but no one knows what God looks like. She said, well, they will in a moment. The little guy said, well, I do have to admire that boy for his gusto.

But the Bible does say that no one has ever seen God. Moses had prayed, Lord, show me your glory. And God said, no one shall see my glory and live. That is no one had ever seen God in his glory until that first Christmas until Jesus came. No one had seen God in his essence, seen God in his full and veiled glory. That is until what we read about in an incredible verse of scripture that I want to explore with you for the next few moments as I'm picking up on the gospel of John chapter one verse 14. And the Word became flesh and lived among us. And we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son full of grace and truth.

Here again, we see Jesus, the Son of God as the word, the Logos, the rational foundational principle of all creation. The Logos, the meaning and purpose of life. We see the Son of God, the word becoming flesh, becoming one with us taking on our cause as his own. And in doing this, it says that we have seen his glory in this. We have seen the glory of God, the glory as of a father's only son full of grace and truth.

Now, do you ever look up at the milky way? Do you ever look at the wonders of this incredible universe and wonder what must God be like? Well, in Jesus, we see the glory of God as Jesus is Emmanuel. Jesus is God with us full of grace and truth. I am looking at this verse John 14 right now, I'm looking at in the original Greek text where it says we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son. I mean, it's, it's really fascinating in the original text as it describes Jesus as the mono Genes of the Father mono genes.

The first part of that word mono, mono, it means one, the one and only mono and then the second part of the word genes. Well, it's, it's the Greek word from which we get genetic and genes. So you know, in contemporary English, we could we we we could translate this as saying that Jesus is of one gene, one chromosome with the Father Jesus is of the very same nature, the very same essence as God, the Father. I mean we could say of Jesus that he is the spitting image of God, the father. So that Jesus could say in John chapter 14 verse nine, he who has seen me has seen the Father.



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So do you want to see the glory of God? The glory of God is revealed in Jesus, we have seen his glory, the glory as the Monona of the Father. He is full of grace and truth in the graciousness and truth of Jesus. We we we see into the very essence of God and we know what God is like only Jesus, the mono Ganes of the Father, the glory as of a father's only son is revealed to us in his lowly crib is revealed to us in his cross.

Now, if you hold your finger here for a moment, hold it in John chapter one and turn with me over to the gospel of Matthew chapter 11. As I begin reading in verse 27 Matthew 11 verse 27 where Jesus reveals, he says, no one knows the son except the father, and no one knows the father except the son and, and one to whom the Sun chooses to reveal him. And then in the next verses, Jesus tells us those to whom he chooses to reveal the Father as Jesus invites, come to me, come to me all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens. And I will give you rest, take my yoke upon you and, and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

No one knows the infinite, all powerful, all loving, all wise God in his essence, like Jesus knows him and like Jesus reveals him to all who will come to him. No one knows the father like Jesus knows him and he invites us to know him. Come to me. Jesus says come to me, take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart. I mean, isn't that the very nature of God that is revealed to us in the manger, gentle and humble and hard, isn't that the very nature of God revealed to us in his cross? His cross taken up for you. And for me, Jesus reveals to us the glory of God as a father's only son mono Ganna of the same essence, full, full of grace and truth.

Here is how John Calvin describes what Jesus has done for you and me in his institutes of the Christian religion. John Calvin writes By becoming son of man with us Jesus has made us sons of God with him by his descent to earth. He has prepared our ascent to heaven by taking on our mortality. He has bestowed on us his own immortality by taking on himself, our weakness. He has made us strong with his strength by receiving our poverty unto himself. He has transferred to us his riches. We have seen his glory full of grace and truth. No wonder we rejoice at Christmas.

I'm Tim Smith, a fellow traveler. Thank you for listening. Until next time.