



Bible Study of the Gospel of John

Lesson #6, The Glory of the Lord Witnessed by Man; Sanctified by the GOD WHO SEES ALL.

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What is an eyewitness?

Definition: a person who has personally seen something happen and so can give a first-hand description of it:

example: "eyewitness accounts of the crucifixion of Jesus"

What are some other good examples of an eyewitness? How important are eyewitnesses?

John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

- **We beheld His glory:** John, the disciple, testified to this as an eyewitness, even as John the Baptist testified. John could say, "I saw His glory, the glory belonging to the only begotten of the Father."
 - ✓ **Only Begotten of the Father:** means "only Son."
Greek word used in speaking of the widow's son, Jairus's daughter, the demoniac boy, and Issac.
 - ✓ It marks off His unique Sonship from that of the 'sons of God' (*John 1:12*).

Note: The word "beheld" is stronger than the words "saw" or "looked." John tells us that he and the other disciples *carefully studied/was in awe of the glory of the Word made flesh.*

"The verb 'beheld' is invariably used in John (as, for that matter, in the whole New Testament) of seeing with the bodily eye. It is not used of visions. John is speaking of that glory that was seen in the literal, physical since...." (Morris)

- **Full of grace and truth:** The glory of Jesus wasn't primarily an adrenaline rush and certainly not a sideshow. It was full of grace and truth. (Much like the way we felt when Jesus came into our hearts...full and overflowing joy.)

What was it like when you accepted the fact that Jesus truly was the Son of God and was willing to die for our sins...not His?

If we don't feel, act, love, exude the excitement about this new freedom in knowing where we are going NOW, then we NEED TO RENEW AND REVIVE THAT SPIRIT WITHIN US TODAY.

"These two ideas (FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH) should hold our minds and direct our lives. God is grace, and truth. Not one without the other. Not the other apart from the one." (Morgan)

John 1:15-18, "(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, 'This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.') ¹⁶ Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the only begotten Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship (in the bosom) with the Father, has made him known."

"He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me."

- John the Baptist's testimony was rooted in his understanding of the pre-existence of Jesus.
- He knew that Jesus was before him in every sense.
 - ✓ Read the account of the John, the Baptist, being the one who was prophesied as being the one who would pave the way for the Messiah. (Luke 1)
 - ✓ Zechariah and Elizabeth taught their son well.
 - ✓ John listened to his parents and fulfilled his destiny as a witness to the world.

"In antiquity it was widely held that chronological priority meant superiority. Men were humble about their own generation, and really thought that their fathers were wiser than they – incredible as this may sound to our generation!" (Morris)

QUESTION: HAVE YOU FULFILLED YOUR DESTINY TO THE WORLD?

NOTE: WE DON'T HAVE LONG TO COMPLETE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES HERE ON EARTH.

“Of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace:”

When Christ came into the world (in the flesh), a New World Order was established.

Does that surprise you?

The New World Order has an inexhaustible supply of grace (grace for grace), i.e. grace on top of grace (figure of speech).

- **This is in contrast to an order of rigid laws and regulations given through Moses (the law had served its purpose).**
- **Clearly John intends to put some emphasis on the thought of grace.**
- **God’s grace to His people is continuous and is never exhausted.**
- **Grace knows no interruption and no limit.” (Morris)**

A Synopsis of what this means: For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ: This describes and demonstrates the fullness of grace announced by John the Baptist and brought by Jesus Christ. God the Word, Jesus Christ, brought a different order than the one instituted by Moses.

No one has seen God at any time:

- **Jesus, the Word, is the perfect declaration of the unseen God.**
- **The Father and the Son belong to the same family, and Jesus has declared the nature of the unseen God to man.**
- **We don’t have to wonder about the nature and personality of God. Jesus has declared it with both His teaching and His life.**

But the only begotten Son, who is himself God...

Understand that only one person (in the flesh) has seen God (in His Deity)...and that person is and was and always will be His

Only...Only...Only Begotten Son.

“But” is a conjunction. It disintegrates the previous statement.

Note: It doesn’t contradict the previous statement; it lets us know that Jesus was not only human but was with God in the beginning. He was flesh and spirit.

The Greek word for God here (theon) is not just another word for a “person looked up to as a God” (Paul and John). “Theon” means a Deity (the nature of being)...that is our Savior/Our God.

Other Greek words for God”

- *Pantokratór* = *almighty; the ruler of all; 2 Corinthians 6:18.*
- *Sótér* = *a savior, deliverer.*
- *Hupsistos* = *highest, most high of rank: the most high God.*

Who is in the bosom of the Father:

- No where in the world is there a better place to be than to be in our parents’ arms as a child.
- There is no better feeling than to feel the close relationship with your parents as a child...or being with your spouse and family at the end of the day.

Yes...I realize that not all individuals have been able to feel comforted (close relationship) with their parents or their spouse; but that feeling is the way it was and is supposed to be.

Today is particularly important in that we read, feel, and know that God the Father is represented by our Savior, Jesus.

John, the Apostle, presents the information and actions that he witnessed. John, the Baptist, presented Jesus as God, the Father, taught him to. John’s parents tutored their son well.

Oh...that we would teach our children well.

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6 KJV

God’s grace is sufficient. Every detail of God’s love for mankind is found in the greatest book ever written.

Make sure you represent our Deliverer well.

“Be all you can be in word and actions.”

