

**The Gospel of John**

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**The Gospel of John**

**Lesson #10**

**The Journey**

Jim Hoffman

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**The Gospel of John**

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John 1:11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

“It is humiliating to our famous people to go unrecognized. Because people do not recognize them, they feel treated beneath their dignity. If any human being was ever subjected to such repeated indignities during His life, it was Jesus. During His earthly ministry the ones who most often and most clearly recognized Him were the demons from hell”.

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**The Gospel of John**

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He left his usual place and accepted the conditions of human life and environment, with the attendant temporal limitations that all humans experience. John's presentation of Christ as the Word is not primarily metaphysical but practical. As the preexistent Son of God, he was the Creator of the world and the Executor of the will of the Father. As the incarnate Son of God, he exercised in his human existence these same powers and revealed effectively the person of the Father. "We have seen his glory" implies a personal observation of a new reality.

Expositor's Commentary

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### The Gospel of John

- And what is that new reality?
- The “new reality” ignited by the coming of Jesus is that the One who was once obscure and only alluded to in the Old Testament, would forever be unobscured.
- The new reality was that people had what James Dobson once said was, “a God with skin”.

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### The Gospel of John

This reality is surely the most profound ever because it indicates that the Infinite became finite; the Eternal was conformed to time; the Invisible became visible; the supernatural One reduced Himself to the natural. In the incarnation, however, the Word did not cease to be God but became God in human flesh, i.e., undiminished deity in human form as a man.

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### The Gospel of John

- “we have seen *his* glory” (verse #14) – Here John points us to God in the flesh. He wasn’t reflecting the Father’s glory, they saw “His” glory.
- As Jesus was healing the sick, raising the dead, and opening the eyes of the blind he was unveiling his glory.
- **John 17:5** And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

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### The Gospel of John

- **To represent Jesus, to point to Jesus, to speak of Jesus, to sing of Jesus is to glorify him!**
- When we see Jesus for who he is – he is glorified. He has the same essence as God the Father and when God is seen he is glorified.
- These are statements that cannot be false, for there is nothing in him or about him that will ever cause him to diminish or be less glorious. 7

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### The Gospel of John

- John 1:15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, '**He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.**'")
- John the Baptizer's testimony was this – "the one who follows me is greater than I am because even though our **birth records** show I am 6 months older than he, **the biblical record** is that he is the eternal God of heaven". 8

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### The Gospel of John

- **John 1:16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.**
- Verse #14 told us Jesus was full of grace and truth – the picture is that of a fountain that never runs dry.
- Jesus was "full of grace" and we are the beneficiaries of his goodness – He has a supply of grace to carry us through every aspect of life. 9

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The Gospel of John

**What is the grace of God?**

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The Gospel of John

Grace is God choosing to bless us rather than curse us as we most certainly deserve. Grace is God offering His greatest treasure to the worst of sinners.

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The Gospel of John

- Grace is not only for salvation but for living as well.
- God wants us to be saved by grace and to grow in grace – without the grace of God we are all hopelessly lost in sin and spiritually dead.
- Grace is the Divine Influence on the hearts of those who will know him and do know him.

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**Grace from Strongs Dictionary**

Word: [carij](#)  
 Pronounce: *khar'-ee*  
 Strongs Number: [G5485](#)

**Orig:** from 5463, graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual especially the divine influence upon the heart, its reflection in the life, including gratitude)--acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace(-less), joy, liberality, pleasure (thank(s)-worthy). [G5484](#)

**Use:** 10834-171,204 Notan Feminine

**Heb Strong:** [H1429](#) [H2565](#) [H2580](#) [H2617](#) [H2699](#) [H2735](#) [H2752](#)

1) grace  
 1a) that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech  
 2) good will, loving-kindness, favour  
 2a) of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues  
 3) what is due to grace  
 3a) the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace  
 3b) the token or proof of grace, benefit  
 3b1) a gift of grace  
 3b2) benefit, bounty  
 4) thanks, (for benefits, services, favours), recompense, reward

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**Grace from Strongs Dictionary**

especially the divine influence upon the heart.

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**The Gospel of John**

- We almost can't help ourselves when asked about grace – we go to that aspect of grace that secures our salvation.
- But if salvation is all there is at issue for the believer, then why did Peter write the following.
- “But **grow in the grace** and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

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### The Gospel of John

- And why would Paul write the words below when writing to Christians if grace is only about acquiring salvation.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- We need the “Divine Influence” of God every day, all day, in order to love, act, and react as we ought.

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### The Gospel of John

- Why are you drawn to a certain ministry? (the Divine Influence of God)
- Why do you write a card or make a phone call to your brothers and sisters who are hurting? (the Divine Influence of God)
- We needed the Divine Influence of God to be saved, but if his grace stopped there we would be ineffective and unproductive children of God.

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### The Gospel of John

Divine Influence  
(grace)

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### He Giveth More Grace - Annie J. Flint

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,  
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase;  
To added afflictions He addeth His mercy,  
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,  
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,  
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources  
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limits, His grace has no measure,  
His power no boundary known unto men;  
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus  
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.

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### The Gospel of John

• **John 1:17** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

• **Gal 3:24** Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

• The law was good because it came from God, but it was insufficient to save lost people.

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### The Gospel of John

Moral law, ceremonial law, and dietary laws were all given to us by God and are therefore good. However, now that the ceremonial and dietary laws have been fulfilled in Christ, we are not subject to them. The moral law (the ten commandments) still stand, but they are the same today as they were in the Old Testament in that they are insufficient to save a soul. The ceremonial laws provided the Jew with a temporary covering for his sin, but it takes the grace of God to be saved. The law will get one lost, but not found.

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### The Gospel of John

• **John 1:18** No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

• The meaning of the awkward sentence above is, "Jesus, who is at the Father's side, has explained the invisible God to us including his disposition towards all people and all things."

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### The Gospel of John

• Here is an interesting thought – John is writing around 95 A.D. He knows that Isaiah saw God as recorded in his prophecy.

• He would have known also that Stephen saw Jesus in his glory at his stoning, yet he says, "No one has ever seen God".

• So, there must be a way of seeing God (Isaiah and Stephen) without really seeing him.

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### The Gospel of John

There is something better in this life than seeing God – when we perceive who he is we have entered territory that goes well beyond seeing God. It is then that we know him!

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### The Gospel of John

We do not see God with our eyes but via the Word of God and the Spirit of God we can clearly perceive of him.

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:18 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory.

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### The Gospel of John

"I suppose that if you were to ask Christians whether or not they would like to 'see' God, most would say 'yes.' Human curiosity often wins out over our knowledge of biblical passages such as Hebrews 12:29, which informs us that 'our God is a consuming fire.' While Scripture promises that the pure in heart will see God, Paul makes it clear that such sight cannot come until death, when believers enter God's presence. It is God alone who 'has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see'. But one day — at the appearing of Jesus Christ — Paul says we will see that which our sin and finitude currently prevents us from seeing." Kim Riddlebarger

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Questions?

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