

Beholding Jesus

What Is Beholding?

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John 1:1-3, 14, 35-37

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

*14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. Cf. **1 Timothy 2:5**; **1 Peter 1:24-25***

35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

Beholding is allowing the eyes of our heart to be enlightened and focused on Jesus—who he is (God incarnate and the Christ) and what he has done (attributes, signs, wonders, death on the cross, and his bodily resurrection).

John 17:3, 17-24

3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see [behold] my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

- **Jesus' prayer and desire was that we would behold him. This is meant to draw you into greater depths of your relationship with him.**

Colossians 2:8-10

8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. 9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

- We need a correct beholding of Jesus. Cf. **2 Corinthians 11:4**

1 Corinthians 2:13-16

13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

- Truth of the scriptures and illumination from the Spirit reveal the glory of God. Cf. **John 4:24; 16:13-14**

You become what you behold.

Discipleship Homework:

Use the questions and statements below to help you apply the teaching into your life. This season we invite you to encounter the beauty of our God and celebrate the incarnation of Christ.

- Read **Ephesians 1:17-23**
17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.
- Find a place of solitude and practice reciting this prayer daily.
- Have questions about the message or need help with the homework? Please email Pastor Jarrod at jarrod@1116.church.