



Week 20: Seeing Jesus in Writing/Poetry

Scripture: (some of the many poetic passages in Scripture): Genesis 49:2-27, Exodus 15:1-18, Numbers 6:24-26, Deuteronomy 33:2-29, Judges 5:2-31, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Job 1:21, Psalms, Proverbs 31:10-31, Song of Songs, Isaiah 9:2-7, 52:13-53:12, Joel 2:28-32, Jonah 2:2-9, Luke 1:46-55, 68-79, Romans 11:33-36, Philippians 2:6-11

Devotional:

As we open our Bibles and read from Scripture today it probably seems obvious to us that God communicates through the written word. These words, written through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, continue to help us see Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Beyond Scripture, today there is no shortage of other written material of various kinds which God uses to deepen our faith and understanding of him. Within Scripture itself we find many different styles of writing which God uses to reveal some of who he is, and of his salvation plan in Christ. One of these styles is poetry.

Looking through Scripture again reveals that there is a great deal of poetry within it. We probably think first of the Psalms and the wealth and variety of poetry there. So many of these passages are quoted in the New Testament and many continue to be some of our most well-known verses today. This is probably because the poetic nature of these verses is able to communicate great depth of meaning while also being easy to remember.

Besides the Psalms, there is also a great deal of poetry in the prophets. In fact, many times when God is speaking directly to his people in Scripture, it comes in poetic form. This is a form that no doubt was easier for the people to remember when they heard it, but also provided a means for God to use metaphors and images from our world to communicate some of his character and plan to his people. Today, not only do we continue to read and memorize these passages of Scripture, but we also connect with poetry in the songs we sing and through other means. These poems also often end up being the things we remember most, and that have great importance in our own faith stories.

God has blessed us with so many different forms and means of communication, and through all of them we have the opportunity to see and share what God has done in Jesus. It is God's delight to communicate to us in our language and in ways that we can begin to understand him. How are you engaging with the different forms of communication in your life? Do you see and explore the ways God might be communicating to you through them? Or are they something we are chiefly using for our own ends?

Song

*"Holy Spirit,
Living Breath of God"*



Activity

Read some poetry this week and reflect on how God communicates to you through this means.

Memory Verse:

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Questions to reflect on this week:

- How have I seen Jesus in the **B**ible?
- How have I seen Jesus in the **L**ove I show toward God/others?
- How have I seen Jesus in **E**arth he's created?
- How have I seen Jesus in **P**rayers?
- How have I seen Jesus in the **O**thers he's placed before me?

[**BLEPO**: means "to see" in Greek]

Seeing Jesus is believing in Him!



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