

Gospel of John 1:9-18

New American Standard Version

1 There was the true Light which, coming
2 into the world, enlightens every man. He
3 was in the world, and the world was made
4 through Him, and the world did not know
5 Him. He came to His own, and those who
6 were His own did not receive Him. But as
7 many as received Him, to them He gave
8 the right to become children of God, *even*
9 to those who believe in His name, who
10 were born, not of blood nor of the will of
11 the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
12 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt
13 among us, and we saw His glory, glory as
14 of the only begotten from the Father, full
15 of grace and truth. John *testified about
16 Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of
17 whom I said, 'He who comes after me has
18 a higher rank than I, for He existed before
19 me.'" For of His fullness we have all
20 received, and grace upon grace. For the
21 Law was given through Moses; grace and
22 truth were realized through Jesus Christ.
23 No one has seen God at any time; the only
24 begotten God who is in the bosom of the
25 Father, He has explained *Him*.

Read through the entire passage once, then read again and mark the following features:

Circle all the verbs describing the actions of God, or the Light or other divine actors.

Underline all the verbs describing actions or responses of humans.

How would you summarize the circled items?

How would you summarize the underlined items?

Draw a box around anything about the (as yet unidentified) writer of this passage. What do you learn about the author?

What more do you learn about "a man named John" mentioned earlier in the passage last week?

Last week we began with the writer's vague, mysterious description of "The Word" at the start of his book. How does this passage start bringing more clarity to that unusual beginning?

What thoughts or questions does this passage begin to stir in you in anticipation of where the writer is going next?

Additional questions

- What does this passage tell us about God?
- What does this passage tell us about finding out more about God?
- What does this passage tell us about the relationships between God, the Word, and the Light?