

BEHOLD –  
TAKE A GOOD  
LOOK!  
Jn. 1:29



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Review

Our theme this year is...

VISION	20/20
HIS VISION.	OUR FOCUS.

During the last couple of months, we have been observing situations where men and women in the Scriptures faced unforeseeable circumstances and walked by faith as they encountered them. A couple of weeks ago we shifted our focus to begin a new series...

BEHOLD – TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

In Tyndale's first English translation in 1525, the word "behold" meant "to hold in high regard." We will focus upon what God holds in high regard.

- "BEHOLD" occurs 1,326 times in 1,275 verses in the King James Bible.
- Last week we looked at Jn. 1:29:

Jn. 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith,  
**Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

- ❖ John the Baptist was prophesied to arrive before the Messiah for the purpose to "prepare the way" – get the Israelites' attention – by way of repentance.

Mark 1:2, Mal. 3:1, Isa. 40:3

Luke 3:3 And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of **repentance for the remission of sins**;

## I. The Startling Declaration – “Behold...”

A. The Emphasis – “...John seeth Jesus...”

B. The Example – “...coming to him...”

- ❖ Why was Jesus coming to John the Baptist?
- ❖ Why was Jesus so particular about being baptized by John?
- ❖ Scriptural baptism must have the right authority, the correct mode and correct motive, but has NOTHING to do with salvation.
- ❖ Jesus did NOT begin His ministry until after He was baptized.
- ❖ After salvation, which is a private decision, a believer wants to be baptized as a public display of identification of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. (Acts 8:36-38)

## II. The Symbolic Display “...the Lamb of God...”

- ❖ The parents of John the Baptist were descendants of Aaron, and members of the priesthood.

Luke 1:5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named **Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.**

- As family a member to the Aaronic priesthood, imagine how many lambs that were slain before the eyes of John the Baptist!
- John the Baptist could have introduced the Savior in many ways, but he chose the title “the Lamb of God.”

#### A. The Innocency – “...the Lamb...”

- A lamb typifies a harmless sacrifice, substitutionary for the sins of mankind.
- Throughout history, the Israelites were taught sin and its consequences of separation from God could only be removed by blood sacrifices:

#### B. The Incarnation – “...of God...”

1 Tim. 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Acts 4:12 **Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**

1 Tim. 2:5 For ***there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;***

6 **Who gave himself a ransom for all,** to be testified in due time.

Jn. 14:6 **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

### III. The Sin-Deliverance – “...which taketh away the sin of the world.”

#### A. The Powerful Absolution – “...which taketh away the sin...”

Absolution: act of absolving; a freeing from blame or guilt; release from consequences, obligations, or penalties.

#### Roman Catholic Theology.

1. a remission of sin or of the punishment for sin, **made by a priest in the sacrament of penance** on the ground of authority received from Christ.
2. the formula declaring such remission.

Protestant Theology. a declaration or assurance of divine forgiveness to penitent believers, made after confession of sins.

<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/absolution>

1 Tim. 2:5 For **there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**

6 **Who gave himself a ransom for all**, to be testified in due time.

Mt. 9:6 But **that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins**, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

Col. 1:14 In whom we have **redemption through his blood**, *even the forgiveness of sins*:

- The acknowledgement of sin is throughout the Bible.

Isa. 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: **though your sins be as scarlet**, they shall be as white as snow; **though they be red like crimson**, they shall be as wool.



Isa. 59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

2 But **your iniquities** have separated between you and your God, and **your sins** have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

Jer 17:9 The **heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked**: who can know it?

Rom. 3:9 What then? are we better *than they*? No, in no wise: for we have before proved **both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin**;

...

23 For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world**, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned**:

- The absolution of sin according to the Bible, not religion, begins with Christ:

1 Cor. 15:3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;**

Heb. 10:4 For **it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.**

- On the cross, Jesus, the Lamb, was bearing the sins of mankind:

Isa. 53:6 **All we like sheep have gone astray;** we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

1 Pet. 2:24 **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,** that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto **the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.**

- The death of Jesus on the cross was only required **once**!

Rom. 6:10 For in that he died, **he died unto sin once**: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Heb. 9:25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now **once** in the end of the world hath he appeared **to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself**.

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

28 So **Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many**; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

- The “absolution” of our sins is the remarkable testimony of grace!

Psa. 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, **so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.**

Isa. 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but **thou hast in love to my soul *delivered it from the pit of corruption*: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.**

1 Jn. 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

1 Tim. 2:5 For ***there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;***

**6 Who gave himself a ransom for all,** to be testified in due time.

## B. The Provision Available – “...of the **world**.”

1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**

2 And **he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.**

- John the Baptist preached that repentance was needed.

### 1. The Call to Repentance – Mt. 3:7-8

Mt. 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8 **Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:**

- Jesus preached repentance:

Mt. 4:17 **From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent:** for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Luke 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

- Preaching repentance is part of the “Great Commission.”

Luke 24:47 And that **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem.

## 2. The Clarification of Religion – Mt. 3:9

Mt. 3:9 And **think not to say within yourselves**, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

- It is a travesty of truth for anyone to think that heaven is available to them without the precious blood of the Lamb applied to their sins.

### 3. The Certification of Reality – Mt. 3:10

Mt. 3:10 And now also **the axe is laid unto the root of the trees:** therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Luke 5:24 But **that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins**, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.

Num. 32:23 But if ye will not do so, **behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.**

- The TEN COMMANDMENTS reveal that each of us is a sinner.
- There are five verses that make it very plain that all men are sinners:

Prov. 21:4 An **high look**, and a **proud heart**, *and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.*

Prov. 24:9 **The thought of foolishness is sin:** and the scorner *is* an abomination to men.

Rom. 14:23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because *he eateth* not of faith: for **whatsoever is not of faith is sin.**

Jas. 4:17 Therefore **to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.**

1 Jn. 5:17 **All unrighteousness is sin:** and there is a sin not unto death.

- Jesus pointed out the truth of man's sinfulness when the woman was taken in adultery.

Jn. 8:7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.**



- The issue of sin is so important to God that it required the death of His Son.
- To reject the truth of sin and its consequences brings a warning from the Lord Jesus Himself:

Jn. 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for **if ye believe not that I am *he*, ye shall die in your sins. ...**

34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.**

### C. The Personal Application

Rom. 3:22 Even **the righteousness of God *which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all*** and **upon all them that believe**: for there is no difference:

Psa. 32:1 **Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

Rom. 4:7 *Saying,* **Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.**

Eph. 2:1 *And you hath he quickened,* **who were dead in trespasses and sins;**

## Conclusion

Heb. 3:12 **Take heed**, brethren, lest there be in any of you **an evil heart of unbelief**, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; **lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

2 Cor. 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: **behold**, **now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**)

Rom 10:8 But what saith it? **The word is nigh** thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, **the word of faith**, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, **Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.**

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 For **whosoever** shall call upon **the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

Phil. 2:9 Wherefore **God also hath highly exalted him**, and given him **a name which is above every name**:

10 That **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* **every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

Luke 15:10 Likewise, I say unto you, **there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth**.