

# A Homemade Christmas

*“The Guiding Light  
of the Glory of Christ”*

John 1:14



*“And the Word became flesh  
and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen His glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the  
Father,  
full of grace and truth.”*

**John 1:14 ESV**

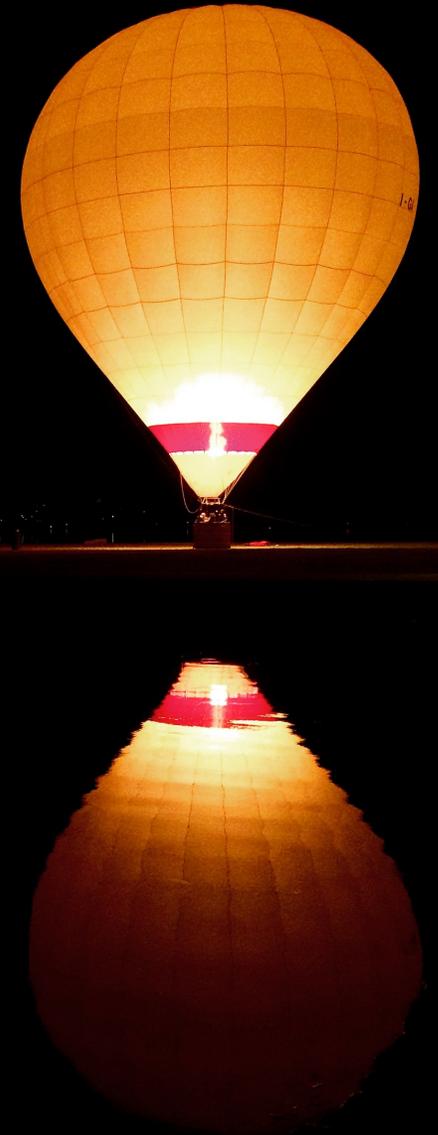


*...and we have seen His glory,*

“and we”

The 12 Disciples

Eyewitnesses of the Resurrected Christ



# 1 John 1:1-2

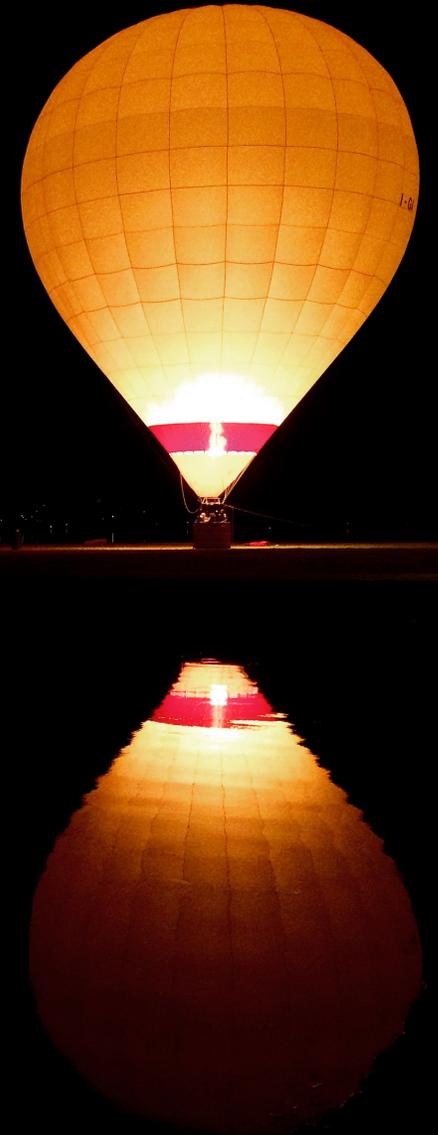
That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—” 1 John 1:1-2

# 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

*...and we have seen His glory,*

“have seen” - to behold, look upon, view attentively, contemplate (often used of public shows) of important persons that are looked on with admiration



*...and we have seen His glory,*

## God's Glory in the Old Testament

- Exodus 24:17, 34:29-35; 40:34-35
- 2 Chronicles 7:1-3 (Solomon's temple)
- Ezekiel 8-11 (God's glory departs)



# Exodus 34:29-35 ESV

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

<sup>30</sup> Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.

# Exodus 34:29-35 ESV

<sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

# Exodus 34:29-35 ESV

<sup>34</sup> Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, <sup>35</sup> the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

# The Glory of God Departs

Ezekiel 8:4 – God's glory in the Holy of Holies

Ezekiel 9:3; 10:4 - God's glory moves to the temple

Ezekiel 10:18-19 – God's glory moves to the East Gate

Ezekiel 11:22-23 – God's glory departs from the Mount of Olives

*...and we have seen His glory,*

## Christ Revealed God's Glory

- Miracles
- Transfiguration
- Triumphal Entry
- Resurrection
- Ascension

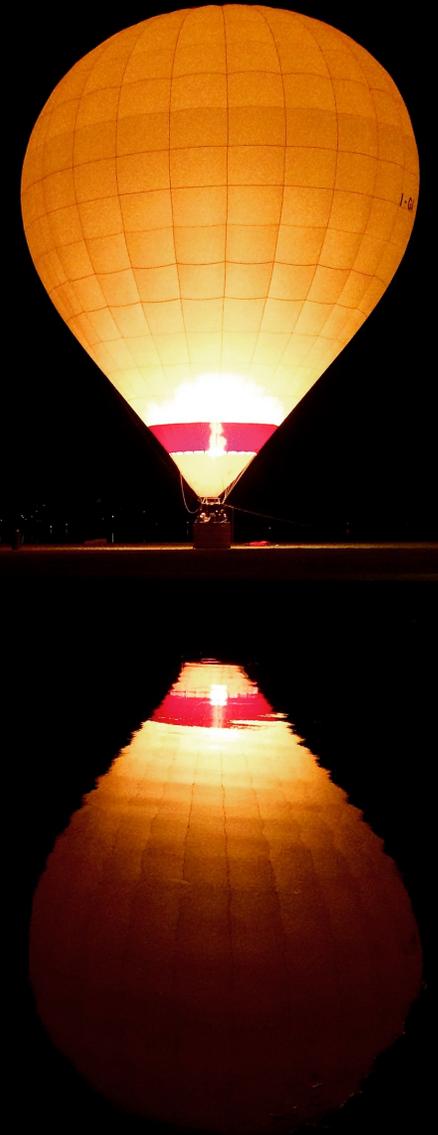


# R.C. Sproul on The Triumphal Entry

In 586 BC, Ezekiel saw the glory of God leave the temple, leave the holy city, and ascend to Bethany on the Mount of Olives. At the triumphal entry, the One Whom the Scriptures define as the brightness of God's glory (Heb. 1:3+) descended from Bethany and the Mount of Olives, entered the East Gate of the Holy City, and went to the temple. Do you see it? In 586 BC the glory of God left the temple, but when Jesus came, the glory of God came back.

*...and we have seen His glory,*

<sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,  
Hebrews 1:3



# Revelation 1:12-18 ESV

<sup>12</sup> Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup> his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

# Revelation 1:12-18 ESV

<sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup> and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

*If it were possible to put all the stars in the universe together, such that they shone as one single, bright light, it's brightness would merely be the slightest reflection of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

*It would be as if a tiny candle were to be compared to the brilliance of the noonday sun.*

Anonymous TBC Church Member

*...glory as of the only Son from  
the Father,*

“only Son” – only begotten, one-of-a-kind,  
unique

John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18



# Colossians 1:15-20 ESV

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

# Colossians 1:15-20 ESV

<sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

<sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

## 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 ESV

<sup>12</sup> Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup> Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

## 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 ESV

<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

# **The Glory of Christ Guides Us**

*Away from the idol of self-identity*

# **The Glory of Christ Guides Us**

Toward the praise of our King of Glory

**1 Fairest Lord Jesus,  
ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God and man the Son,  
Thee will I cherish,  
Thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

**2 Fair are the meadows,  
fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

**3 Fair is the sunshine,  
fairer still the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels heaven can boast.**

**4 Beautiful Savior!  
Lord of all the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine.**