

## Hebrews 1:1-3 Unrivaled Revelation - Part 2

**Children sometimes say the funniest things – But often times there is a message in their response.**

Savanah was in the first grade – public school – One day during a lesson about Blue Whales. – Savanah asked the question –Can whales swallow people?  
Her teacher Mrs Stevens explained that whales could not swallow people – because they have these, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton.

Sav: "But Mrs. Thurston my Sunday school teacher says Jonah was swallowed by a whale."

Mrs Stevens now getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people."

Savanah : "Well, when I get to heaven I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale."

Mrs Stevens still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?"

Savanah : "Well, then you can ask him."

### **Which Commandment?**

The children were learning about the Ten Commandments. The teacher explained the 5th Commandment, "**Honor thy father and thy mother.**" She asked if they knew of a commandment which taught them how to treat their brothers and sisters.

**"Yah," said a little boy. "Thou shalt not kill."**

### **Children also have a way of putting things in Perspective.**

The father of a very wealthy family sent his 10 yr old son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him **how poor people live.**

He spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered **a very poor family.**

On his return from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad." "Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked. "Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

### **The son answered:**

"I saw that we have one dog and they had four.

We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end.

We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night.

Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

We have servants who serve us, **but they serve others.**

We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them."

### **The boy's father was speechless.**

Then his son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are."

## **Perspective means a lot!**

**A)David was the only one to walk out into the Valley of Elah to face Goliath because of his perspective.**

**B)Everyone in the Israeli army saw Goliath as a Giant a Warrior as an unbeatable foe.**

**C)David: Saw him as an uncircumscied philistine that was making fun of the Living God! –**

**1)You just don't do that and get away with it.**

**D)Wasn't that David was some bad dude – David just knew His God!**

Daniel 11:32 “...the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.”

## **That my friends is why the Book of Hebrews begins the way that it does – It is all about Perspective.**

**A)The writer is writing to Jewish believers who because of persection ..... forsaking Christ and going back into Judaism**

**B)He is writing to make sure they know **who** they are considering forsaking.**

**C)The writer is going to build a case – chapter after chapter revealing how every single important person and aspect of OT Judaism**

**1)was merely a picture or a shadow pointing to Jesus - Real Thing!**

**D)We could Simplify His argument in this way – Why would you want the shadow or the picture when you could have the real thing.**

**1)Analogy – Me coming home – family –kisses the shadow.**

**2)Or I want to go with my pictures.**

**Now here is the application for us: I would say there are very few who are in this room today who are thinking of outright forsaking Christ –**

**A)you are not contemplating – walking away from Jesus and going back into the world.**

**B)But all of us have to regularly battle with – How much are we going to trust Christ.**

**C)How much of our lives are we going to surrender to him?**

**1)How much control are we going to give to Him for our lives/ in our marriages/ business/ friendships**

**Most of the time our reluctancy to trust has to do with perspective**

**A)We don't know **who** He is – therefore we don't trust **what** He can do!**

**B)Some of you here today are in the place of you have not yet decided to follow Christ.**

**1)I pray today that as you see Him – consider Him –that you would trust Him with your heart – for Salvation RD**

Now last time we noted that the writer of Hebrews opens up this epistle by painting a picture of Jesus – that we called an Unrivaled Revelation.

A) He puts forth a seven fold description of Christ that covers the **glory of His Person** as well as the **nature of His incarnation** and **the power of His redemption.**

B) We laid out those descriptions last week in this way.

- 1.) **HIS PROMINENCE**: Heir of all things
- 2.) **HIS INGENUITY**: Creator of the worlds.
- 3.) **HIS POWER**: Upholds all things
- 4.) **HIS RADIANCE**: Brightness of God's glory
- 5.) **HIS REVELATION**: Express image of His person
- 6.) **HIS REDEMPTION**: He by Himself purged our sins
- 7.) **HIS REIGN**: He has sat down.... majesty on high!

C) We broke down the first three in this description last time. Heir/ Creator/ Sustainer

**This morning we want to devote our attention to the final four.**

A) Begin with His **RADIANCE**. – He is the brightness of God's glory!

B) Brightness means "the outshining"; or "the RADIANCE" Jesus on earth was the outshining of the Glory of God.

C) The glory of God is an interesting topic of conversation. **Glory in OT = Kabod** – weight

1) When thinking about the glory of God in the OT always ominous.

1) That is why I asked you to turn to Exodus

**RD Exodus 24:16-18** Radical description – very intangible – fire smoke cloud – Moses disappears

**Turn to Exodus 33 – the People have sinned golden calf – God is ready to have an Angel Lead them – Moses – Says not you – not going .**

A) God says – Ok I will lead the people – Moses says **V.18 – Show me your glory!**

B) I love the boldness and the heart of Moses – Lord I want all of you!

**RD V.19-Ch. 34:1-7**

**Names – Issac – laughter – this tells us God's name is connected to His Glory – This is who I am**

A) Merciful and gracious

**Merciful** is better translated, "full of compassion."

B) The word translated **gracious** comes from the idea "to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior; to favor, or to bestow." It is grace, giving to the undeserving.

**Longsuffering: Slow to anger – he doesn't get exasperated with us. Not uptight.**

*Gayle E. Perhaps since anger so accurately reflects the human situation, we who tend to shape our gods into our image find it beyond our comprehension that the true God, the one who shaped us in HIS IMAGE would be longsuffering . He adds – Any "normal" human being would have abandoned or obliterated me by now, but the God of Compassion & grace patiently waits for my inch by inch progress*

**Goodness { loving kindness and Truth { all that is right and just and fair.**

**Abounding {overflowing**

"Not merely adequate, but abounding is this great God of glory. He has barns and silos full of love and faithfulness; he is stacking it in the streets looking for a distribution system." (Erwin)

**Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin:-** that covers the full gamut of sin – unintentional, to outright rebellion are all mentioned in those 3 words so no one would think there was some type of sin God was unable to forgive.

**By no means clearing the guilty:**

A)God did not randomly clear the guilty – that would not be true and just. –

B)He sent His son Jesus to take the Punishment. – Pay the price. – Forgiveness is now possible.

**C) But to those who reject what Jesus did – they will have to answer for their sins –**

1) but God is going to keep visiting them = pursuing them –

2)trying to tug on their hearts and bring them to that place where they will repent. One generation after another.

**So God was revealing His Character in His name to Moses on the MT – this is who I am –**

A)The Writer of Hebrews says that Jesus was the outshining of that revelation.

B)When Jesus came – the literal glory was concealed in his flesh – no halo – open mouth beams of light didn't come forth. { **Glory concealed in His flesh**

1)Peter James and John caught a glimpse on the mt of transfiguration

C)Interesting in **John gospel Ch. 1v.14 John says – and we beheld his glory – you would expect he would go to the mt. – He was shining .....Elijah**

1)IT WAS AWESOME – SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE!

D)He says **“We beheld his glory the glory of the only begotten of the Father FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH!” John 1:14**

The word "full" means that you could not have any more. Not lacking in any way.

A) When John looked at Jesus he saw a normal man – on the outside / didn't glow – Judas / No booming voice /

B) He wasn't the **Best Looking** – had no special beauty or form to make us notice him;

1) John saw a normal guy on the OUTSIDE

C) But what **caught John's attention** was the glory that he saw inside. That is what he says was remarkable. / Attraction

**Grace is the generosity of Love – Grace is love giving of itself.**

**Truth is all that is right, pure, just, holy.**

A) Jesus was the walking talking living breathing – example of the perfecting blending of those two things.

B) That is what John saw – That was His glory – that was the outshining of what God revealed to Moses on that mt.

**His Revelation: The Express image of His Person.**

A) Phrase was used describe Exact representation / it was used in the Greek Lang. for the impression made by a dye or stamp on a seal

B.) The design on the die was reproduced on the wax.

**C) Today we would say – He was a perfect match in his finger print – or his DNA**

**D) AFFIRMATION OF HIS DEITY**

- 1) Christ not only was God manifested, He was God in substance.
- 2) Jesus is the perfect, personal imprint of God in time and space.

***Colossians 1:15 - He is the image of invisible God!***

A) When Paul uses the word image, he was saying that Jesus is the perfect manifestation of God.

B) He perfectly represents God to men in a form which they can see and know and understand.

The story is told of a prince and his family who were captured by an enemy king. When brought before the enemy king, the prince was asked, by the enemy king *"What will you give me if I release you?"*

**"Half of my wealth,"** was the prince's reply.

"And if I release your children?" *"Everything I possess."*

"And if I release your wife?" / the prince said *"Your Majesty, for her I would give myself,"*.

The king was so moved by the prince's devotion to his family that he freed them all. As they returned home, the prince said to his wife, *"Wasn't the king a handsome man!"* With a look of deep love for her husband, she said to him, "I didn't notice. I could keep my eyes only on the one who was willing to give himself for my sake."

**God's Purpose in sending Jesus – Express image of His person – Revealing His God's Character – So we would fall in Love w/ Him !!**

**A) A Relationship that is based on Love not Law Devotion not Duty!**

**B) More than being the right thing to do – But it is because He has captured your heart!**

**Brings us to next portrait - HIS REDEMPTION; He by Himself purged our sins!**

**A.) Purge = to make clean / to thoroughly cleanse.**

B) This word purge would immediately make these Jewish readers think of Lev. 16 Day of Atonement.

1) Aaron take a Bull – his sins/ his house / blood on Mercy seat

**C) Then a goat for the sins of the pp/ also Scapegoat**

**D) Purged- Paid for and put away: Completely cleansed of sin!**

E) **BY HIMSELF** – No help from us / or anyone else – He went to the Cross ALONE to deal w/ our sin !!!!!

1) Sins are Wiped away = PURGE

**Longfellow** - worthless sheet of paper, write a poem - make it worth \$6,000 - that's genius.

**Trump** sign his name piece of paper make it worth a million dollars - that capital.

**Uncle Sam** can take silver stamp an image on it, that's money.

**Artist** can take a \$5.00 piece of canvas, paint a picture on it worth \$1,000 - that's art.

**God can take a worthless, sinful life, wash it in the blood of Christ, put His Spirit in it, and make it a blessing to humanity - that's salvation.**

**Leads to last portrait - - Consider HIS REIGN OR RULE: He sat down at the right hand majesty on High**

**A.) Jesus sitting down right hand father - signifies at least 2 things.**

B) **First: Sign of honor and Authority.** Kings sit on thrones!

Philippians 2:10-11

“...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

**We give honor to Jesus through our submission to His authority in our Lives**

The captain on the bridge of a large naval vessel saw a light ahead on a collision course. He signaled, "*Alter your course ten degrees south.*" The reply came back, "Alter your course ten degrees north."

The captain then signaled, "*Alter your course ten degrees south. I am a captain.*" The reply: "Alter your course 10 degrees north. I am a seaman third-class."

The furious captain signaled, "*Alter your course ten degrees south. I am a battleship.*" The reply: "Alter your course ten degrees north. I am a lighthouse."

Life be so much more peaceful just listened to Him!

**Another way that we give honor to Jesus is in Worship.**

Psalm 66:2

**“Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious.”**

**We honor Him through our giving!**

**Proverbs 3:9**

**“Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;**

**Jesus also sat down because His work of Redemption was done!**

A) Finished – Not started – Not almost -

Aa) This is in great contrast to the priestly procedure under the Old Covenant. There were no seats in the Tabernacle or the Temple sanctuaries.

**B) The priest had no place to sit because his work was never Done !!**

**C) His responsibility was to sacrifice, sacrifice, sacrifice, over and over again.**

1) So the priests offered sacrifices daily-and never sat down./ No Rest

**D) But Jesus offered one sacrifice,** and said, **“It is finished.”** He then went and sat down with the Father. It was done.

1) What could not be accomplished under the Old Covenant, even after centuries of sacrifices, was accomplished **once & for all by Jesus Christ**

**E) Romans 8:34 Seated – make intercession for us**

**Now here is beauty of it - Because He is at rest, I can be at rest in Him!**

A.) Heb 4 - "*Encouraged to be diligent to enter that rest*"

B) Listen - JESUS is not stressed out! Good to know?

1)He is not freaking out - He is at rest! Because He is at rest I can Rest – what that mean ?

C.) **Nothing I do improves my standing** - my standing is perfect!

1)All because of what He did - I am in Him!

D)Means I don't have to feel like I have to **PERFORM** in order for God to love me.

1)If there is a day where I miss my devotions – I am not thinking He is mad at me

2)If I shy away from witnessing – fallen out of favor

**Gone are the days of feeling like I have to READ MORE/ PRAY MORE / WITNESS MORE/ STUDY MORE in order for God to really love me!**

A)No I am secure in his love for me because Jesus paid the price – Jesus made me clean

B)Jesus took all my sin and gave me His righteousness – **THAT IS MY STANDING!**

C)So now I love to pray/ read/ worship/ share my faith/ serve however I can – because I know that He loves me.

D) Now I do those things out of a **Response** to what He has done for me & a **DESIRE** to Know Him More