

## **Mirrors**

### **Encounters with God**

**January 17, 2021**

**2 Corinthians 3:16-18 / MSG** Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of His face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like Him.

- **The mirror of failure: “I am what I did.”**
- **The mirror of others’ opinions: “I am who they say I am.”**
- **The mirror of inferiority: “I am not enough.”**

**To know what something is, you must ask the One who made it.**

**James 1:23-25 / NIV** Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

### **Moses’ Encounter with God**

- **“Who am I?”**

**Exodus 3:11-12 / NIV** But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” <sup>12</sup> And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

**1 Corinthians 15:10 / NIV** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

**“I am who I am by the grace of God.”**

- **“Who are you?”**

**Exodus 3:13-14 / NIV** Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is His name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

**Jeremiah 32:17 / NIV** Ah, Sovereign Lord, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for You.

**“There is nothing too hard for my God.”**

- **“What if they?”**

**Exodus 4:1 / NIV** Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you’?”

**Proverbs 29:25 / NIV** Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

**John 12:42-43 / NIV** Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in Him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue;<sup>43</sup> for they loved human praise more than praise from God.

**Romans 1:16 / NIV** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

**“I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus.”**

- **“I have never.”**

**Exodus 4:10-12 / NIV** Moses said to the Lord, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”<sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord?”<sup>12</sup> Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

**Philippians 4:13 / NIV** I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

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