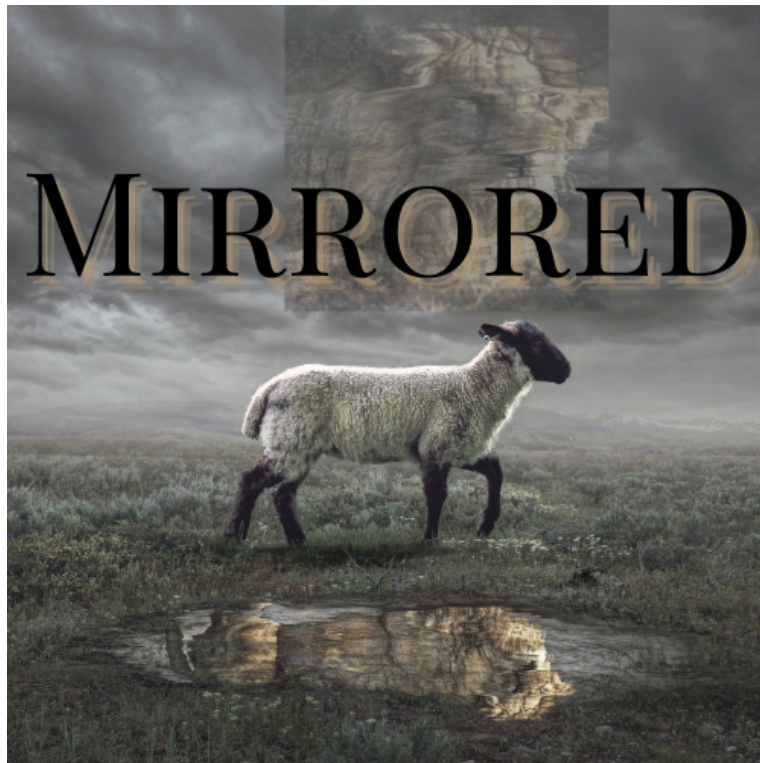

Mirrored

Heart of the Valley Community Church

With Kristen Wambach - March 25, 2024

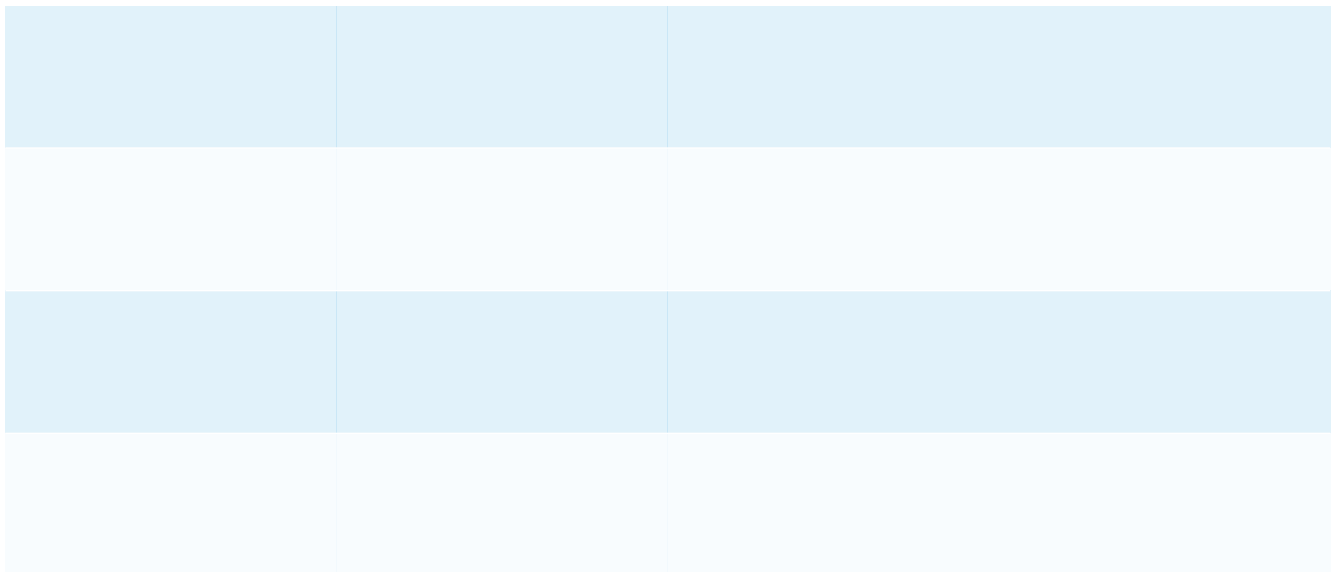


Introduction

1:1 To go back to the very 1beginning, is to find the 2Word already 3present there; 4face to face with God. The one mirrors the other. The Word is 3I am; God's 2eloquence echoes and 4concludes in him. The Word equals God.

(In the beginning, 1arche, to be first in order, time, place or rank. The Word, 2logos, [intelligence as an interconnected network of things known; the sum total of logic] was "with" God; here and again in verse 2 John uses the Greek Preposition 4pros, towards; face-to-face. Three times in this sentence John uses the Active Indicative Imperfect form of the verb 3eimi, namely aen [ἦν] to continue to be, [in the beginning 'was' the Word etc...] which conveys no idea

Look, Listen, Encounter, Converse, Ponder



Returning to the initial starting point means discovering the Word already existing there; a direct encounter with God. Each reflects the other. The Word is "I am"; God's speech resonates and finds its completion in him. The Word is synonymous with God.

1:2 The beginning mirrors the Word face to face with God

(Nothing that is witnessed in the Word distracts from who God is. "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father." [John 14:9] The Word that was from the beginning was not yet written nor spoken; it was simply face to face with God. The beginning declares the destiny of the Word, image and likeness would be mirrored and redeemed in incarnate human form.

Look, Listen, Encounter, Converse, Ponder

The start reflects the Word being in the presence of God.



1:3 The Logos is the source; everything commences in him. He remains the exclusive Parent reference to their existence. There is nothing original, except the Word. The Logic of God defines the only possible place where mankind can trace their origin.

(All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. KJV See Colossians 1:16.)

Look, Listen, Encounter, Converse, Ponder

The Logos is the origin; all things start with him. He is the ultimate point of reference for their existence. Nothing is original except the Word. God's Logic delineates the sole conceivable location from which humanity can trace their beginnings.

1:4 His life is the light that defines our lives.

(In his life we discover the light of life.)

Look, Listen, Encounter, Converse, Ponder

His life illuminates and shapes our own.

1:5 The darkness was pierced and could not comprehend or diminish this light.

(Darkness represents mankind’s ignorance of their redeemed identity and innocence [Isa 9:2-4, Isa 60:1-3, Eph 4:18, Col 1:13-15].)

Look, Listen, Encounter, Converse, Ponder

The darkness was penetrated by a light that it could neither understand nor diminish.



Summary

The text reflects on the concept of the Word as God, emphasizing the Word's presence at the beginning as a reflection of God. The Word, synonymous with God, is the source of all things, defining human existence. It is described as the light that shapes our lives, piercing through darkness. The text encourages reflection through looking, listening, encountering, conversing, and pondering.

The passage muses on the profound notion of the Word embodying divinity, highlighting it's primordial essence intertwined with God. This celestial Word, synonymous with the divine, is the wellspring from which all creation flows, imbuing human essence with purpose. It is envisioned as a radiant beacon illuminating our paths, dispelling shadows that obscure our journey. Encouraging introspection, the text prompts contemplation through observation, attentive listening, serendipitous encounters, heartfelt dialogues, and deep rumination.

