

## Behold

*"The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"*

(John 1: 35, 36 ESV)

Behold...

There is something about the word "behold" that captures my attention. We simply don't use words like that today, and I sometimes feel that we are a little the poorer for it.

The word "behold" speaks of more than a casual glance. It speaks of giving something focused attention – an intentional effort to see and understand.



(<https://stmargaretmary.org/lamb-of-god/>)

And what is John the Baptist calling us to behold? The Lamb of God...

What does the word "behold" mean to you? Can you identify a time when you something caught your attention and your spent time "beholding" it?

Earlier in his Gospel, the Apostle John writes that *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory"* (John 1:14, RSV, emphasis added). This is yet

another time when John teaches us that there was something about Jesus Christ that demands more than a quick look.

We live in a world of "instantaneous". We now have a generation of people, who have never known life without social media and the internet. If you want to know an answer to a question, then you just "google it". It is possible to waste hours and hours simply scrolling from one

video to another. To many, the idea of pausing and “beholding” is a lost skill. We simply skim from one picture, one idea, one video to the next.

Although I have almost no musical talent, I love music, and I am so thankful for the talented, creative people that form part of God’s Church here on earth. One particular song that I am drawn to again and again is a song called “Behold” (you can listen to it here on this link: [https://youtu.be/BDNrrouqSGjY?si=csIRR8v\\_ZdjY4bkR](https://youtu.be/BDNrrouqSGjY?si=csIRR8v_ZdjY4bkR)). Some of the lyrics of this song are as follows:

*“Behold the Father’s heart, The mystery He lavishes on us...*

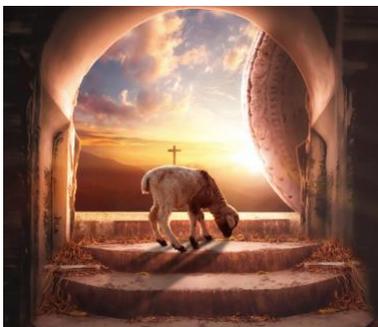
*Behold His Holy Son, The Lion and the Lamb given to us, The Word became a man, that my soul should know its Saviour...”<sup>1</sup>(emphasis added)*

It is my belief that this song captures a key element of beholding – that is knowing. We behold the suffering of Jesus, so that we would know that we are not alone in our times of suffering. We behold the Lamb of God, so that we would know the forgiveness and freedom available to each of us. We behold the resurrection so that we would know the hope that comes as a result.

Easter presents to us a sacred time to stop and behold. We behold the immensity of Jesus’ sacrifice

What are some ways you will behold the Lamb of God, this Easter?

on Good Friday; we behold the mystery of Easter Saturday - its apparent death of hope and its accompanying fears and doubts, and we behold the immense, joy-filled glory of Jesus’s resurrection on Sunday.



May you find time to “behold” this Easter...

<https://i0.wp.com/slovakzionsynod.org/wp->

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<sup>1</sup> "Behold (Then Sings My Soul)" Words and Music by Joel Houston © 2016 Hillsong Music Publishing