

# Looking to Jesus: Beholding Is Becoming (Lesson 1)

## II Corinthians 3:17-18

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is present, there is freedom. <sup>3:18</sup> And we all, with unveiled faces beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, which is from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

Reading: [Ephesians 2:1-8](#) (New English Translation)

1. What is this “*Freedom*”? Read [Romans 7:4](#) – It’s not freedom to live however you want, or freedom *from* holiness, but rather it is freedom *TO* holiness. It is not an obsession with our sin that will make us more holy, but our reliance on – and our occupation with – the One who freed us from that sin.
2. What is the allusion to *unveiled faces*? Read [Exodus 34:29-35](#). When Moses came down from the mountain, Moses’ face shined. It was his presence with God that caused this, not seeing the written law on tablets of stone. He went before God at least 3 times with no food or water for 40 days; God’s *very presence* is what sustained Moses, as we all know full well that no one can survive more than a few days without water. Spurgeon noted that The Lord does not have fellowship with our selfishness; we must come before him thinking about only HIM, not ourselves!
3. What does it mean to “*behold the glory of the Lord*”? The context here is as one contemplating or *focusing*, as looking in a mirror. In [Hebrews 11](#) we see the “hall of faith”, where He gives examples of those who focus on God... yet at the end, Paul gives us the ultimate example of Jesus. We are to behold the Glory of the Lord.

Key points taken from the sermon “[Beholding is Becoming](#)”, by Michael D. Walters

Sermon presented January 12, 2020 at Grace Bible Church – Baytown, Texas

(Page 1 of 2)

Note: Additional Bible Studies are found in the [Topical Studies](#) section of our website at [www.GraceBibleChurchBaytown.org](http://www.GraceBibleChurchBaytown.org).

## Looking to Jesus: Beholding Is Becoming (Lesson 1) (Continued)

4. What is this *transformation*? We are in a process of being acted upon... We are not the ones doing the transforming, but Him that has given us freedom from our sin and the very power to be transformed. It is a continual work in progress. Christianity is *NOT* a “get out of hell free” card. Our goal He sets forth for us is the transformation in this life to one *after the likeness of God*. We should be transforming from one glory to another – experiential sanctification, knowing Him better and better, until we ultimately go into His presence, knowing Him fully.

The runner must look *up and out* – not down at the path he’s running, not focusing on the pain of self, but upward and outward, to the blessings of the creation before him.

Hebrews 12:1, 2 – *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we must get rid of every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and run with endurance the race set out for us, <sup>2</sup> keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”*

The runner should be looking to *Jesus*... who endured the cross, despising the shame...

Jesus endured the Cross, and focused on the Joy set before Him.

We must learn to better *LOOK TO JESUS*, that we might be faithfully *transformed* by Him.