

John 1:1-5, 9-14
The Light of Life

John 20:31

These [things] are written so that you may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,[f] and by believing you may have life in His name.

There is a certain fear of death that comes from not having lived yet. I had to face death myself through three different experiences with cancer. I don't think I was terribly afraid of death each time, even though I knew it might be near, because I knew that I had already lived. Once you know that you have touched upon the Great Mystery itself, you are not so afraid of death. But there's an existential terror about losing what you've never found. Something in us says, "I haven't done 'it' yet." I haven't experienced the stream of life yet. I haven't touched the real, the good, the true, and the beautiful—which is, of course, what we were created for. I'm not afraid to let go of life because I have life.

—Richard Rohr, *Everything Belongs*

(v.4) Life was in Him, and that life was the light of men.

REVELATION (THE WORD MADE FLESH)

(v.1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...(v.14) The Word became flesh and took up residence among us.

This was an unfathomable shift, [it would] direct European humanity along a quite different path than that set out by the Greeks. In...the very opening lines of his Gospel, John invites us to believe that the incarnate Word [The Logos], the divine as such, no longer designates the rational and harmonious structure of the Cosmos, the universal order as such, but refers instead to a simple individual...The Man-God, Christ, who claims to be the son of God, the Logos incarnate.

—Luc Ferry, *A Brief History of Thought* (p.62)

SALVATION (HE DWELT AMONG US)

John 3:19-21

“This, then, is the judgment: The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone who practices wicked things hates the light and avoids it, so that his deeds may not be exposed. 21 But anyone who lives by the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be shown to be accomplished by God.”

“If there’s a larger lesson to ‘Breaking Bad,’ it’s that actions have consequences...If religion is a reaction of man, and nothing more, it seems to me that it represents a human desire for wrongdoers to be punished. I hate the idea of Idi Amin living in Saudi Arabia for the last 25 years of his life. That galls me to no end.”

“I feel some sort of need for biblical atonement, or justice, or something...“My girlfriend says this great thing that’s become my philosophy as well. ‘I want to believe there’s a heaven. But I can’t not believe there’s a hell.’”

—Vince Gilligan (Breaking Bad), NY Times

John 1:9-13

The true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was created through Him, yet the world did not recognize Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. 12 But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name, 13 who were born, not of blood, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man,[j] but of God.

TRANSFORMATION (WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY)

1 Cor 3:18

We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.

CLOSING QUESTIONS

What am I trusting in for life?

Where are you calling me to come into the light that I may find life?

How will I behold the glory of Jesus this week?