

**“SEEING THE FATHER IN THE SON”****Introduction**

1. The Upper Room discourse.
2. Note the freedom and familiarity.
3. Will heaven not be similar?

**1. THE WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIP OF FATHER AND SON**

- 1) What do we know of the Holy Trinity?
- 2) What do we know of the Person of Christ?
- 3) The wonderful truth that to see Christ is to see the Father:
  - (i) John 1:18: Christ “declares” the Father
  - (ii) Col. 1:15: “the image of the invisible God”
  - (iii) Heb. 1:3: “the brightness of his glory”
  - (iv) Heb. 1:3: “the express image of his person”
- 4) God is uniquely revealed “in the face” of Jesus Christ. How do we understand this?
  - (i) NOT in ref. to Christ’s body
  - (ii) BUT to Christ’s character

**2. WHAT CHRIST IS VISIBLY THE FATHER IS INVISIBLY**

- 1) Christ is a living character – portrait of God:
 

**ILLUSTRATION**: a photograph of someone you have never met – it prepares you.

**OBSERVE**: Blind men do not know God:

**ILLUSTRATION**: Blind men and an elephant.
- 2) In which respects do we see God?
  - (i) God’s love is visible:  
He ate and talked with sinners – a friendly, kind, gentle

Saviour.

**ILLUSTRATION**: the woman in Simon’s house.

- (ii) God’s holiness is visible.  
Christ never once sinned – and he was hated by many religious persons.  
**OBSERVE**: It is a gracious holiness.
- (iii) God’s compassion for lost men is seen “sheep not having a shepherd” – Parable Prodigal Son – wept over Jerusalem.  
**APPLICATION**: God delights in men’s salvation
- (iv) God’s hatred of hypocrisy is clear.  
God looks on the heart above all else.  
How often does Christ expose religious hypocrisy!
- (v) God’s faithfulness is everywhere shown.  
See the way Christ regards the Law and the Bible.  
**APPLICATION**: Let us gaze at Christ in the Gospels.

**3. WE SEE NOW “IN A GLASS DARKLY” AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING “FACE TO FACE”**

- 1) The full enjoyment of God is reserved for heaven. Paul’s illustration in 1 Cor. 13.
- 2) There are many reasons here why we should long after God and heaven:
  - (i) It was the love of God that sent Christ to save us.
  - (ii) All Christ’s words were given him to say by the Father.
  - (iii) All Christ’s generous miracles reflect the loving goodness of God.
  - (iv) Christ never repelled any who truly wanted him, even lepers.

**CONCLUSION**

God is very generous.  
See Christ’s remark on the offering of the widow.  
So on us!

**PSALM****113: 1 – 8****89: 24 – 28****45<sup>2</sup>: 13 - 15**