



| Thursday, December 19

In the Beginning: Glory

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

John 1:14 MSG

Preface: Within the emphasis “Made New 20/20”, quoting from The Message seems thematically and language appropriate. I offer thoughts for two days; this being the first.

If we only had 20/20 hindsight. How often have you heard this? As we look to the birth of Jesus, perhaps we need to look back behind and beyond the stable to the beginning. As I reflect on the message, I see Jesus, one with the Father at the creation.

As the above verse is spoken, I cannot help but think of “glory” within our Christmas anthems. Hearing the words “Generous inside and out,” such generosity being “true” for eternity, our Christmas giving takes on a non-linear, non-temporal aspect, touching the world, touching eternity. Generosity as an expression of new life?

How do we, like the Word become flesh, move into our own neighborhoods? Perhaps Advent provides gifts that will lead to a glorious finish.

Father, as we move into and through our personal advents, our own vision of your Son's birth, may our views be changed to that which is spoken outside of time. Amen.

- Ted Pfohl