

never exhausted. These witnesses speak from the ripest Christian experience. Their testimony therefore is worthy of confidence.

Vs. 17, 18. *The law . . . by Moses*; the law which said, Do this and live, but gave no power to obey. *Grace and truth . . . by Jesus Christ*; the unearned favor of God, which gives life, and the real blessings, which the law only foreshadowed. *No man hath seen God*; no human eye, Ex. 33:20. *The . . . Son*. Only a Son can reveal the Father. *In the bosom*; in most loving fellowship with the Father. *Hath declared him*; made Him known to the world as Father. All we can learn of God is in His Son, the Eternal Word, the Messiah, the man Jesus.

*Rev. James Ross, D. D.*  
*Don't look at the East*  
LIGHT—From time immemorial has been the symbol of truth, knowledge and goodness. The contrast between the light of day and the darkness of the night was early used to denote the contrast between knowledge and ignorance,

goodness and evil, happiness and pain. All ancient Semitic peoples were so deeply impressed with the value of light that they worshipped the sun and moon. And after some of them had risen to a more spiritual conception of the Supreme Being, light was the best material symbol they could think of to set forth their thoughts of God's knowledge, goodness and effects upon his creatures. Several of the older religions regarded light as intimately connected with the origin of things. The Egyptian said of his god, "He hath made all things that the world contains, and gave it light when all was darkness and there was as yet no sun." The Babylonian conceived creation as a battle between the Light Being and the Demon of Darkness. Sanscrit literature represents creation as a ray from the realm of light entering the Kingdom of darkness. Even we now in our sermons, hymns and prayers are continually using light in many figurative ways, to express our thoughts about God and of His relation to us.

#### APPLICATION

By Rev. W. J. Clark, London, Ont.

*In the beginning was the Word, v. 1.* We have come to another of life's beginnings. The gateway of the New Year is open before us. Who can tell whither its path will lead us? But this we do know. The One who was with God at the beginning of time is at our side to-day. Nothing is hidden from His gaze. He knows the future, and when we come to its hard duties, to the temptations that threaten to sweep us off our feet, we shall find Him there, ready to help us. We shall have a safe journey with a prosperous ending, if we begin the year with Christ.

*All things were made by him, v. 3.* "How precious," wrote the author of the peerless One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Psalm, "are thy thoughts unto me, O God!"  
God's Thoughts The world is full of God's thoughts. The daily provision of heaven's light and fresh air, of food from the world's harvest fields, of warmth from the great, generous sun—what are these but divine thoughts finding expression? And the glorious world that lies beyond this—it, also, reveals a thought of God. But

of all His thoughts, surely the most precious is the thought revealed in sending Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. With what joy we should look upon all God's works in providence and grace, since they make known His thoughts toward us. It is His blessed Son who gives reality to these thoughts. All power is in His hands, who is our loving Elder Brother.

*In him was life, v. 4.* "I think nothing human foreign to myself," said the Roman poet Terence. In everything noble and right in the world the Christian has an interest, for Christ is the source and spring of it all. The beautiful pictures and statues of the great artists, the lofty thoughts of the best writers, the wonderful contrivances of the famous inventors,—who should appreciate and enjoy these, if not the friends and followers of Him who gifts the intellect with genius and the hand with skill? The whole realm of man's achievement is the Christian's rightful heritage.

*The light of men, v. 4.* It is a law of matter, that no body will begin to move of itself.