

In ancient times, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets. In the time of Christ, he spoke to us most directly through his Son (Heb 1:1-2). God continues to speak to us in various ways.

He still uses prophets. “Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you... I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land!”<sup>i</sup> These are the impassioned words of Martin Luther King, delivered the night before he was assassinated. He was in Memphis trying to help striking garbage workers have safer working conditions and a more just pay for their back breaking labor. His words spoke to injustice in Memphis in 1968. Because they are prophetic, they speak to every generation.

God reveals himself through human relationships. “Man cannot live without love. He remains a being that is incomprehensible for himself, his life is senseless, if love is not revealed to him, if he does not encounter love, if he does not experience it and make it his own, if he does not participate intimately in it. This ... is why Christ the Redeemer ‘fully reveals man to himself’” (Redemptor Hominis #10).

God reveals himself throughout the entire bible. In the Old Testament, he revealed himself to Moses and the Israelites. The Ten Commandments are based on these words: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage” (Ex 20:2-3). In the ‘ten words’ of the Covenant with Israel, and in the whole Law, God makes himself known and acknowledged as the One who ‘alone is good’; the One who despite man’s sin remains the ‘model’ for moral action” (Veritatis Splendor #10). In the New Testament, “Christ is the Teacher, the Risen One who has life in himself and who is always present in his Church and in the world. It is he who opens up to the faithful the book of the Scriptures and, by fully revealing the Father’s will, teaches the truth about moral action” (VS #8).

God reveals himself in the truth. We live in a world of moral relativism in which some say what is true for me may not be true for you. We live in a world where individuals choose to believe alternative facts, conspiracy theories, and choose to listen to only those voices they agree with. The devil loves to deceive us. Pope John Paul II explained it this way. “We must not be content merely to warn the faithful about the errors and dangers of certain ethical theories. We must first of all show the inviting splendor of that truth which is Jesus Christ himself. In him, who is the Truth, man can understand fully and live perfectly, through his good actions, his vocation to freedom in obedience to the divine law summarized in the commandment of love of God and neighbor” (VS #83).

God reveals himself to us through the Eucharist. Jesus teaches us “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst” (Jn 6:35). At the Feast of Corpus Christi, the priest prays the Collect saying: “O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.”

God continues to speak to us in various ways ... in the silence of our hearts ... in the beauty of a sunset ... in the forgiveness of our sins ... in the midst of suffering ... in the joys of life. Wherever we find authentic Truth, Beauty and Goodness, we find God revealing himself to us.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/1968-martin-luther-king-jr-i-ve-been-mountaintop/>