



We Beheld His Glory: The Light

I. A Beginning Before Time

- 1 In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 Through him all things were made;
without him nothing was made
that has been made.
- 4 In him was life,
and that life was the light of all mankind.
- 5 The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-

II. A Witness to the Light

- ⁶ There was a man sent from God,
whose name was John.
- ⁷ He came as a **witness**
to **bear witness** concerning the light,
so that through him all might believe.
- ⁸ He himself was not the light;
but came only as a **witness** to the light.

John 1:6-8

I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me,



‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’
And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

John 1:32-34

John's Joy

“The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him and is full of JOY when he hears the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full. He must increase, but I must decrease.”

John 3:29-30

The World Becomes God's Courtroom

1. Witness of the Father John 5:32, 37
2. Witness of the Son John 8:14
3. Witness of the Spirit John 15:26
4. Witness of the works of Christ John 5:36, 10:25-26
5. Witness of the scriptures John 5:39-40
6. Witness of the disciples John 15:27

III. The Rejection of the Light

- 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not know him.
- 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

John 1:9-11

The Door Remains Open

“The **light** is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the **light**, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the **light**, believe in the **light**, that you may become sons of **light**.”

John 12:35-36



IV. The Reception of the Light

¹² Yet to all who did receive him,
to those who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God –
¹³ who not of blood,
nor of the will of flesh
nor of the will of man,
but of God were born.

John 1:12-13

The 7 “I am” Sayings

Glory revealed in leisurely conversations

1. “I am the bread of life”
2. “I am the Light of the world”
3. “I am the door” (“the gate” of the sheep)
4. “I am the good shepherd”
5. “I am the resurrection and the life”
6. “I am the way, and the truth and the life”
7. “I am the true vine”
8. “Before Abraham was, I am”



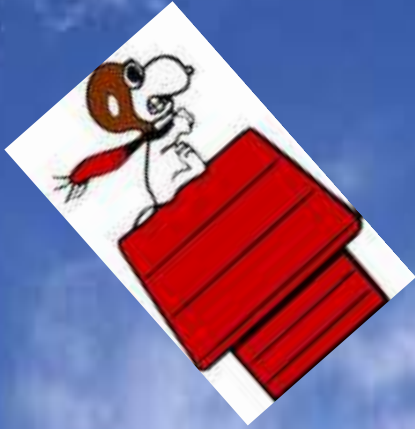
A Sonnet for the 27th of December
The Feast of St. John
Malcolm Guite

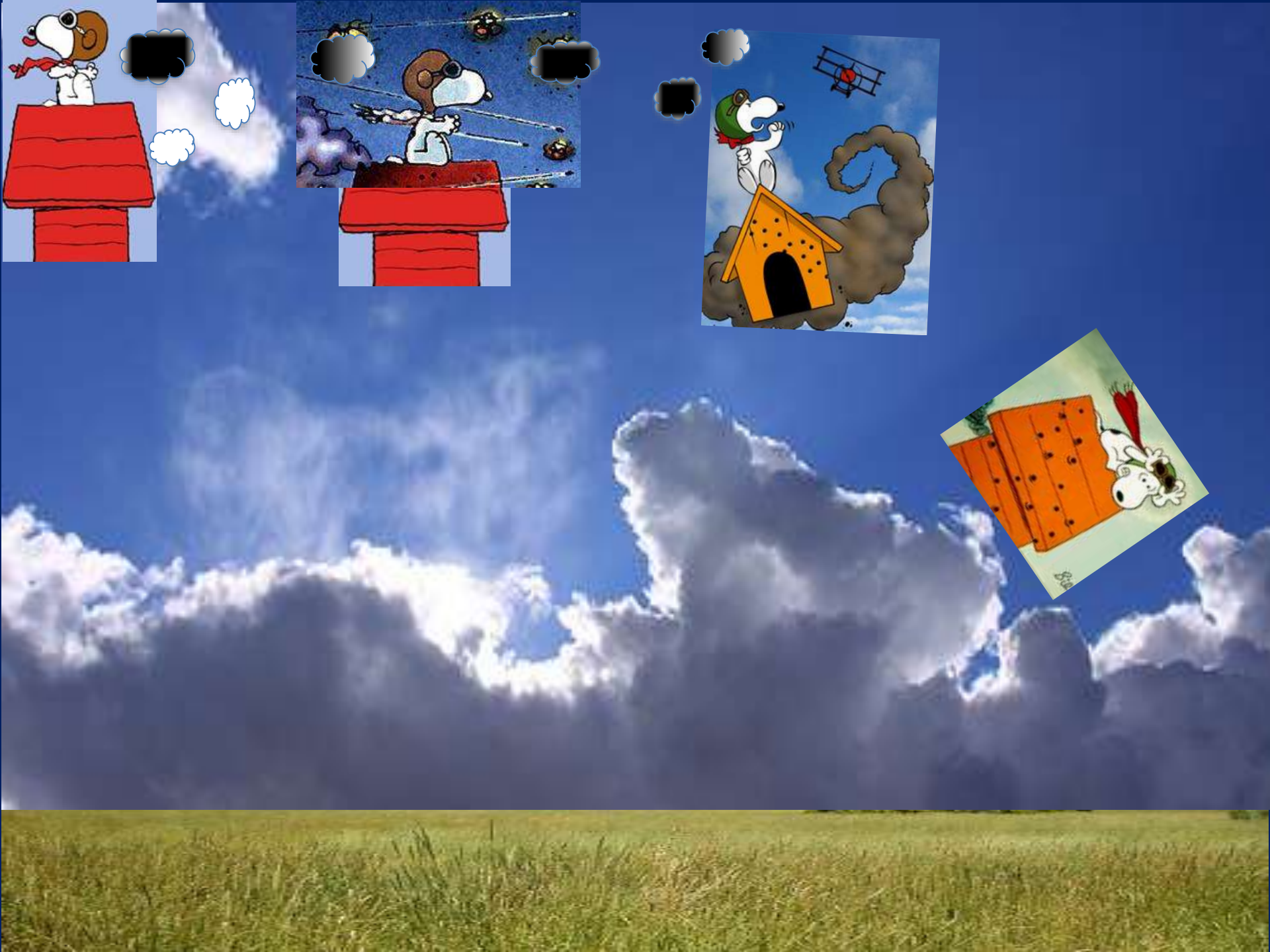
This is the gospel of the primal light,
The first beginning, and the fruitful end,
The soaring glory of an eagle's flight,
The quiet touch of a beloved friend.

This is the gospel of our transformation,
Water to wine and grain to living bread,
Blindness to sight and sorrow to elation,
And Lazarus himself back from the dead!

This is the gospel of all inner meaning,
The heart of heaven opened to the earth,
A gentle friend on Jesus' bosom leaning,
And Nicodemus offered a new birth.

No need to search the heavens high above,
Come close with John and feel the pulse of Love.





The Plateau of Amazement

A New Creation

