

might become children of God. If we accept him, if we believe in him, then we see and share in his glory.

In the stages of salvation the Law may have come through Moses, but grace and truth come through the person of Jesus Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus will fill out this unfolding story of salvation. He will show signs, he will heal, he will teach, each word and event pointing out how he offers us what God offers, calling us to believe in him so that we may have the gift of eternal life. This is our sharing in his glory, our being with him in the love he shares with his Father.

## Application

We have different ways of knowing, different ways of understanding in our world. We have truths of the heart and truths of the mind. Ultimately they all come together in harmony, but from our very partial viewpoints the threads that link and unite may be invisible. We often see more easily the differences, the conflicts between beliefs, truths and convictions. This affects not just the way we think but the way we live. We may see the differences between ourselves and our neighbour as dividing us rather than building a new and greater unity.

However, in our celebration of the coming of Christ into the world we celebrate the unifying link between the threads. He is the one who brings the different colours of the spectrum into glorious unity. It is an act of faith that joins us to him, a truth of the heart that leads us to shape differently the truths of reason, heart and experience so that they blend rather than fragment. Each hand I touch is that of a friend, not an enemy. Each word I hear I use to increase my wisdom rather than to disown or disrespect its speaker. We uncover the mystery of God's love for us and in so doing discover the love that binds us together in our world. Once taken into this mystery we cannot let it go, for we have been taken into the mystery of God's own glory.