



Coram Deo - February 2022

Did you know God is watching? That thought troubles some people. They look at the world around them (war in Ukraine, abortion-mills in our backyard, ICUs beyond capacity at the height of the pandemic) and balk at the notion that God is peeking into *our world* and doing nothing about all its ills. This perspective is fundamentally flawed, though. We assume this is our world and God is an observer, intruding into our existence. In fact, the world (and everything in it) is the Lord's, and all of us existence *in his presence* and not the other way around.

That's what that latin phrase *Coram Deo* is driving at. We live *Coram Deo* (before/in the presence of the face of God). Every second of our lives is lived in God's world and in his presence. The universe, creation itself, is the stage on which God's story is unfolding. He is the playwright, director, set-designer, and star of the show and in love God has cast each one of us to play our own unique role in his magnificent story.

As Saul wiped Damascus road dust out of his mouth and cast his now blinded eyes upward he asked, "Who is it, Lord?" For a moment the curtain of heaven had been pulled back and *the light of the glory of God in **the face** of Jesus Christ* (2 Cor. 4) had knocked him off his high-horse both literally and figuratively. The face of God had blinded the eyes of the Pharisee who was certain his vision was as sharp as an eagles. Saul now knew without a doubt that he was living *Coram Deo*, before the face of the Lord God and his life would never be the same.

On the Damascus Road, St. Paul had caught just a glimpse of the face of Jesus and was cast down, blinded by its holy light. He lived the remainder of his days trusting that one day his great reward would be to see that same face unveiled in all of it's

glory, and to fall down again, this time in worship and adoration. Like Saul we all live *Corma Deo*. The question we must consider is whether we are even aware of it?

Music to Live By:

- *Before the Throne of God Above* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LULK2nZ6sCc>
- *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwc2d1Xt8gM&t=2s>

