

How the Glory of God Can Fill Our Lives
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Introduction: Where can we find our ultimate fulfillment?

- A. Why not seek the creator and find out from the “owner’s manual?”
 - 1. God created man with a need to seek and find God. (**Ecc 3:11; Acts 17:27**)
 - 2. Here is where men must make a crucial choice – to seek God or not.
- B. When man honestly seeks God, he will find Him. What will he then find?
 - 1. God has chosen to be found only by a certain kind of heart.
(**Mt 5:8, 1 Chron 28:9**)
 - 2. The first step to finding the glory of God is to empty yourself and seek.
 - 3. What is the glory of God?

Glory - δόξα (1) as a manifestation of light *radiance, brightness, splendor* (AC 22.11); (2) as a manifestation of God's excellent power *glory, majesty* (RO 9.23); (3) as an excellent reputation *honor, glory, praise* (JN 5.44); (4) as a state characterized by honor, power, and remarkable appearance *glory, splendor* (LU 24.26)....

I. Men react differently to the glory of God

- A. God chose to show one aspect of His glory to Israel at Mt. Sinai. (**Deut 5:24-25**)
 - 1. God’s glory manifested His power and Holiness that in turn created a reverence that turned to terror. Men need to see this aspect of God’s glory.
 - 2. God’s glory helps men see how small and helpless they are. When their sinfulness is seen in light of God’s glory then there should be mourning.
- B. While Moses was also terrified at Mt. Sinai, *he knew God*. There was another aspect of His glory that he sought! He saw God’s goodness. (**Ex 33:17-19, 22-23**)
 - 1. He knew to ask for this and God was pleased. Moses was greatly blessed in this.
 - 2. We will never fully understand His glory in this life. We will be blessed as we seek to know more and more about our God.
 - 3. Seeing God’s glory will change us. Moses face “shone.” (**Ex 34:30**)

II. Jesus is the most powerful manifestation of God’s glory

- A. In the OT God at times showed His glory at the Tabernacle and then at the temple. (**1 Kings 8:10-11, 27**)
 - 1. This was a very limited manifestation of His glory to the priests.
 - 2. This limited glory would depart because of the people. (**Ezk 10:18; Hos 9:12**)
- B. The ultimate expression of God’s glory on earth came in Jesus.
 - 1. There was a moment at the transfiguration they saw a glimpse of God’s glory.
(**Mt 17:1-3; Lk 9:29; 2 Pt 1:17**)
 - 2. In Jesus the disciples saw character of God powerfully displayed. (**Jn 1:14, 16**)
This is the essence of God’s glory. They saw the fullness of grace and truth.
 - 3. God’s glory is seen in His miracles. His mercy and power is shown in the raising of Lazarus. (**Jn 11:4, 33-35, 40**)

4. They saw God's glory in *His respect for God's words*. He taught us how to seek God's glory. **(Jn 7:16-18; 12:23, 27-28)**
5. They saw God's glory in His resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven. **(1 Cor 6:14; 15:43)**
6. All of these things point to the power, perfection and character of God. Jesus was to *return to the glory* He had in heaven. **(Jn 17:4-5)**

III. The hope of the glory of God is to be the focus of our lives

- A. The problem of sin is that we *fall short of God's glory*. **(Rom 3:23)**
 1. Our God wishes to share His glory with us!
 2. The exceeding greatness of His glory *cannot be described in words*.
- B. Because we have believed that Jesus was raised from the dead, we can fully expect to be raised from the dead *to the glory of God*. **(1 Pt 1:20-21; 2 Cor 4:13-14, 17-18)**
 1. In the resurrection of Christ we come to know that *this life is temporary*.
 2. We not only are to be raised from the dead, we are *to partake in God's glory*.
 3. If we could truly commit to look at "the things that are unseen" our lives will drastically change! We can develop *a desire for God* that changes us!
 4. The heart of our evangelism is helping others to *see God's glory*. **(2 Cor 4:4-6)**
- C. We can have assurance of glory because of the conditional promises of God.
 1. Trusting God's promises draws us to God and to be like God. **(2 Pt 1:4)**
 2. God reveals that He is pleased to provide abundantly to those who trust Him.
 3. I serve a God who cannot lie! To have a promise of God is the surest thing we can ever have. **(Titus 1:2; Rom 8:15-17)**
 4. God plainly lays out the path for the redeemed. **(Rom 8:29-31)**
- D. This hope of the glory of God transforms us
 1. It draws us to His word and to His daily care. **(Phil 4:19)**
 2. What we really need is seen in contrast to the past worldly pursuits.
 3. We look very differently at the wrongs suffered in this life. **(1 Pt 4:13-14)**
 4. When we see what we have been given by God's grace then the things we lose seems very small.
 5. We learn to work with our brethren. **(Rom 15:7)**

IV. We are yearning to one day be with God

- A. As a child I wanted to be with my parents.
 1. We have already seen how we can cry "Abba, father."
 2. If our focus is right we should be thinking about the character of God as revealed in Jesus to the point that we dearly want to see Him. **(1 Pt 1:7-9)**
- B. What will heaven be like?
 1. God will wipe away all tears. His comfort is perfect.
 2. Our existence will be illuminated by "the glory of God." **(Rev 21:10-11, 22-24)**
 3. Don't you want to find the ultimate purpose of God?

Conclusion: Nothing in this life can compare to the glory that awaits us. **(Rom 8:18)**