

Doctrine of the Glory of God

Exodus 33:18

*“And he said, I beseech thee,
shew me thy glory.*

1. The word “*glory*” is used in three senses in the Bible with reference to God.
 - It is used of God’s moral beauty and perfection of character, which is not fully understood by men who fall short of it.

Psalms 113:4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

- It is used of the visible manifestation of God is presence, usually through fire, a dazzling light, or a great act of power.

Exodus 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

Leviticus 9:23 And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people. 24 And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces. [See also Exodus 14 and the deliverance of the Hebrews from destruction by Pharaoh’s army]

Since the close of the Old Testament era, the glory of God has been revealed primarily in the person of Jesus Christ, and in the people of the Church, for the Lord shares His glory with His own.

Luke 9:29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering. 30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: 31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. [See also John 1:14; 2 Corinthians 4:6; and Hebrews 1:3]

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. 6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

John 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

- It is used of the praise which men give to God.

Psalms 115:1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Psalms 138:5 Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord: for great is the glory of the Lord.

Revelation 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. 13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

2. The glory of God is exhibited in His name.

- *Deuteronomy 28:58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;*
- *Nehemiah 9:5 Then the Levites...said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.*

3. The glory of God is manifested in the persona of His intrinsic majesty.

- *Psalms 93:1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is established, that it cannot be moved.*
- *Job 37:22 Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God is terrible majesty.*
- *Psalms 104:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.*
- *Psalms 145:5 I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.*
- *Psalms 145:12 To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.*
- *Isaiah 2:10 Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty.*

4. The glory of God is revealed in His power to raise the dead.
 - *Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*
5. The glory of God is revealed in His works of creation and providence.
 - *Psalms 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.*
 - *Psalms 111:3 His work is honorable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth forever.*
6. The glory of God is exhibited in His holiness.
 - *Exodus 15:11 Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?*
7. The glory of God is eternal.
 - *Psalms 104:31 The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever: the LORD shall rejoice in his works.*
8. There are spiritual riches associated with the glory of God.
 - *Ephesians 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;*
9. Among the “riches of His glory” are forgiveness of sins, imputed righteousness, a greater degree of holiness, and the fruit of the Spirit.
10. The glory of God transcends the tarnished glory of time.
 - *Psalms 8:1 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! Who hast set thy glory above the heavens.*

Psalms 113:4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.
11. The glory of God is sometimes revealed to individuals in a very powerful and personal way.
 - *Moses. Exodus 33:18 And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. .. 34:5 And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. 6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,*

- 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.*
- Stephen. *Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,*
 - Saul of Tarsus. *Acts 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*
12. The Exodus Generation as a whole was honored to see the glory of God.
- *Deuteronomy 5:24 And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.*
13. A promise has been made that many of God's people shall see His glory.
- *Psalms 102:16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.*
14. When the glory of God does appear to His people there is spiritual enlightenment.
- *Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.*
15. Heaven is filled, not with artificial light, but the glory of God.
- *Revelation 21:11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;*
 - *Revelation 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.*
16. There is a natural longing in the hearts of God's people to see something of His glory.
- *Psalms 63:2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.*
17. Thoughtful saints will pray that they and their children will see the glory of God.
- *Psalms 90:16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.*
18. God is very jealous of His essential glory and will move to protect it.

- *Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.*
19. There is a sense in which the whole earth is filled with the glory of God as His justice is revealed in mercy or wrath.
- *Isaiah 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.*
20. The glory of God will fill the new heavens and the new earth.
- *Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*