

I. Introduction and review.

II. God is glorious. Ps. 24:7ff *Who is the King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle...He is the King of glory.*

A. What is glory?

1. Importance or weightiness.
2. Splendor and majesty. **Isa. 6:1-3** Ps. 93:1 104:1-2 145:5 Ex. 16:10 II Chr. 7:1-2 Mt. 6:20 Lu. 2:9 Ezek. 9:3 *The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty... behold the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud... When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering...and the glory of the LORD filled the house... An angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were terribly frightened.*

B. God is glorious by nature. Ex. 33:18-22

1. His person is unapproachable. Ex. 33:18,22 II Chron. 7:2 *Moses said, "I pray You, show me Your glory!"... But He (the LORD) said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see me and live."*
2. His glory is closely related to His holiness. Isa. 6:3 *Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory.*
3. All of God's attributes are glorious and praiseworthy.
4. God is beautiful. Ps. 50:2 27:4 Isa. 4:2 33:17 *Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shone forth... One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD.*

C. All that God does is for His own glory.

1. His creation is glorious. Rev. 4:11 Psalm. 19:1-6 97:1-6 *Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things and because of Your will they existed and were created... The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands...*
2. His glory is manifested in His dealings with Israel. Ex. 24:16-17 29:43 14:4,18 Num. 14:10 16:19,42 20:6 Dt. 5:24 I Ki. 8:11 Isa. 49:3 *You are My Servant, Israel, in whom I will show My glory.*
3. His work of redeeming mankind is most glorious.

D. God the Son is glorious. Ps. 8:5 Is. 4:2 12:41 Rev. 1:12-16 Lu. 19:38 24:26 Heb. 3:3 II Co. 4:6 Jo. 7:18 *In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious ... For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

1. God's glory is revealed in the Son. Jo. 1:14 7:17 14:13 Js. 2:1 Heb. 1:3 13:20-21 I Cor. 2:8 *The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth... He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature ...*
2. His first coming was glorious. Luke 2:9,13-14,20,32 *Suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest; And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.*
3. His works were glorious. Luke 5:25-26 7:16 17:15 18:43 John 2:11 *Immediately he went up before them and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. They were all struck with astonishment and begun glorifying God... This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory.*

4. The veil covering His glory was lifted at His transfiguration. **Luke 9:29ff**
Mt. 17:1-8 II Pe. 1:16 *While He was praying, the appearance of His face became different and His clothing became white and gleaming.*
5. Jesus fully entered into His glory through the cross. **Jo. 7:39 12:23 13:31-32 17:1-5,24 21:19** Heb. 2:9 I Pe. 1:11 *Jesus... lifting up His eyes to heaven, said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You...I have accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. Now Father glorify Me together with Yourself with the glory which I had with you before the world was."*
6. He has ascended to glory. **Acts 7:55 I Ti. 3:16 He. 8:1** Rev. 1:12ff *We have such a High priest who has taken up His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens.*
7. He will be glorified at His return. **Mt. 24:30 Phil. 2:9-11 Titus 2:13 Rev. 5:12-13**
They will see the Son of man coming in the clouds of the sky with power and great glory... God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow... and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father... Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory.

E. Heaven will be glorious.

1. God's glory will be fully displayed in the culmination of the ages. **Ps. 86:9 Isa. 9:1 66:18-19 Luke 21:27 Hab. 2:14** *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*
2. Even His wrath displays His glory. **Ro. 9:22-23**
3. God's glory will shine in the heavenly city. **Rev. 21:23 Isa. 60:19-21** *The city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.*
4. The anticipation of future glory enables us to endure hardship now. **Ro. 8:17-18 II Co. 4:17** *I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

III. Our chief purpose is to glorify God.

A. What does it mean to glorify God?

1. Because God is infinitely glorious it is impossible for us to increase His glory.
2. We glorify God by putting His infinite greatness on display. **Eph. 3:10**

B. Everyone and everything has been made to glorify God. **Isa. 43:7,20-21** *Everyone who is called by My name And whom I have created for My glory...The beasts of the field will glorify Me...The people whom I formed for Myself will declare My praise.*

1. We were created in God's image to bring Him glory. **Ps. 8:4-6 I Co. 11:7**
Heb. 2:6-9 *What is man that you take thought of him... You crown him with glory and majesty. You make him to rule over the works of your hands; You have put all things under his feet... He (man) is the image and glory of God.*
2. The greatest possible happiness for mankind is found in glorifying God.
3. Because of sin we fall far short of God's glorious purpose for us. **Rom. 3:23** *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

C. God is jealous for His own glory. **Isa. 42:8 48:11** *I will not give my glory to another.*

1. God humbles the proud who rob Him of His glory. **Js. 4:6 I Pe. 5:5 Is. 16:14**
Esth. 5:11 Ps. 37:20 49:16-20 Da. 4:30ff Acts 12:21-23 **Re. 18:7** *God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble...*
2. Why is it wrong for us to seek our glory while it is right for God to seek His own glory? **Nu. 14:21** *As I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD.*

- D. The essence of sin is placing another glory above the glory of God. Mal. 1:6
1. Idolatry. Ps. 106:20 Rom. 1:23 *They exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals...*
 2. Pride. Gen. 3:5 Isa. 14:12ff
 3. We sin when our life-agenda is for what will make us more great and important, rather than that which will display God's greatness.
 4. When we sin we decide some pleasure or possession has greater glory than God.
- E. Through Christ we enter into God's glory. John 17:10,22 *The glory which You (Father) have given Me I have given to them...*
1. The unbeliever is completely incapable of willingly glorifying God. Ro. 3:23 8:8 *Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*
 2. God saves us to His glory. Eph. 1:3-6 *To the praise of the glory of his grace...*
 3. Now we reflect His glory. Mt. 5:16 Phil. 2:15 Prov. 4:18-19 *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven... The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until the full day.*
- F. How can we glorify God?
1. We glorify God when we acknowledge His work in saving us. Acts 13:48 Ro. 5:2 6:4 9:23 15:9 Eph. 1:6 Col. 1:27 I Co. 1:30-31 *But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and redemption, so that just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."*
 2. We glorify God by acknowledging His greatness through worship. Ps. 57:11 66:2 72:19 96:3 108:5 115:1 29:1-2 95:3,6 I Chr. 29:10-13 *Be exalted above the heavens, O God; let Your glory be above all the earth... Not to us, O LORD, but to Your Name give glory... Ascribe to the LORD, O sons of the mighty, Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name.*
 3. We glorify God when we pray for His glory. Mt. 6:9 Jo. 12:28 *Hallowed be Your name... Father, glorify Your name.*
 4. We glorify God when we express our dependence upon Him in prayer. Ps. 50:13 *Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.*
 5. We glorify God when we thankfully acknowledge that every good gift comes from Him. I Th. 5:18 Rom. 1:21 Deut. 8:11-18 Js. 1:17 *In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus... Even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations ... Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God... otherwise when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses...and when your herds and flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart will become proud and you will forgive the LORD your God...you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.'*
 6. We glorify God as we meditate upon His attributes. Ps. 145:5 27:4 *On the glorious splendor of Your majesty and on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.*
 7. We glorify God by telling others of His excellencies. I Chr. 16:23-29 Ps. 29:9 96:7-8 145:12 I Pe. 2:9-10 *Sing to the LORD, all the earth; Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day. Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised... You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*
 8. We glorify God by proclaiming the gospel. II Th. 3:1 Acts 13:48 Ro. 10:15
 9. We glorify God when we refuse to give His glory to others. Pr. 29:25 Ps. 49:16-20

10. We glorify God by faithfully obeying and serving Him. Mt. 5:16 John 15:8 I Th. 2:12 I Pe. 2:12 4:11 *My Father is glorified by this that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples... Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles so that...they may because of their good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation... Whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever, amen.*
11. We glorify God when we trust Him in trials. I Pe. 1:6-7 4:13,16 *You have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ... if anyone suffers as Christian he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.*
12. We glorify God by our loving unity. Jo. 17:22 13:35 Ro. 15:6-7 II Co. 9:13 *The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one...accept one another just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.*
13. We glorify God as we seek His glory in all we do. I Co. 6:20 10:31 *You have been bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body... Whether then you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

G. We share in God's glory. Col. 3:4 Ps. 73:24 I Co. 15:43 Eph. 5:27 Phil. 3:21 II Th. 1:10 2:14 Heb. 2:10 *When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*

1. That which was connected to God under the Old Covenant was glorious. Ex. 28:2,40 40:34 Eze. 9:3 I Ki. 8:11 Ps. 87:3
2. The New Covenant is more glorious than the Old as we are a royal priesthood who make up His spiritual temple. I Pet. 2:9-10 4:14 Eph. 2:19-22 II Cor. 3:7-11
3. We have been predestined to glory. Rom. 8:29-30 I Co. 2:7 *Those whom He predestined, He also called, and those whom He called, He also justified; and those whom He justified, He also glorified.*
4. In what sense will we be glorified? Dan. 12:3 Mt. 13:43 Phil. 3:21 Ro. 8:17 Co. 3:4 *(He) will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory... When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*
5. Our hope is the final and full manifestation of God's glory when Christ returns. Is. 40:5 66:18-19 Re. 21:23 I Co. 15:43 I Pe. 5:10 *Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, And all flesh will see it together... After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.*

IV. Concluding applications: to God alone be the glory! Ro. 11:33-36 16:25-27 I Ti. 1:17 Jude 1:24-25 Heb. 13:20-21

Attributes of God: His Glory: Quiz

1. How has the modern church lost its way when it comes to glory?
2. What do the biblical words translated 'glory' mean?
3. Where in the Old Testament is God's glory displayed?
4. How is the glory of God displayed in Christ?
5. How is God glorified even through human sin?
6. What does it mean to glorify God? Do we increase His glory?
7. Why is it wrong for us to seek our glory while it is right for God to seek His own glory?
8. Explain how sin is rooted in placing another glory above the glory of God.
9. Why is the unbeliever incapable of even one good work?
10. List several ways in which we can glorify God.
11. In what sense will we be glorified?