

# THE GLORY OF GOD AS THE GOAL OF GOD

## I. A Definition of Glory

### A. Understanding The Progression of God's Revelation Dispensationally

*Three Main  
Things We Find  
Increasing:  
1. God's  
Revelation of  
Himself  
2. Recognition  
of God's  
Holiness  
3. Manifestation  
of His Glory  
...  
These will  
always coincide.*

1. God eternally invisible as spirit, before Creation
2. God creates the heavens and the earth, culminating in the creation of man who bears God's image to represent God in his dominion over creation. This creatorial evidence points to His eternal power and divinity.
3. God calls out the nation of Israel in which He will fragmentarily and progressively reveal Himself
  - a) marked by types
  - b) marked by prophecies
  - c) marked by implicit faith
4. God the Son takes on flesh to reveal in manhood what was never before perceivable of the invisible God (Heb. 1:1-4 / John 1:1-18). But even with God so clearly revealed, only few would be able to understand such revelation (John 6:65)
5. God the Spirit descends, indwells the dispensational Church, and reveals explicitly the doctrines of God in the New Testament, fulfilling the promise of John 15:26. This completes “the faith once for all delivered unto the saints.”
6. The Millennium is initiated in which the visible glory of God is revealed to the earth for 1,000 years (Zech. 14:9,16 / Rev. 19:11-16)
7. The final victory over Satan is won, and wickedness is forever subdued at the Great White Throne (Rev. 20). The Eternal State is initiated. This is the summation of God's revelation as His sovereignty is fully recognized and His dispensational dealings are completed.
  - a) God will be all in all (1 Cor. 15:28)
  - b) Righteousness will pervade eternally (2 Peter 3:13)
  - c) The Tabernacle of God will be with men (Rev. 21:3)
  - d) Both God's sufficient grace and infinite holiness will be eternally remembered (Rev. 21:6-8)

### B. Who Is This God in His Essential Being?

1. “God is Light” – 1 John 1:5
2. “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts.” – Isaiah 6:3
3. “God is Spirit” – John 4:24

### C. Defining Glory Based on These Factors: The glory of God is the outward display of His intrinsically holy Being, expressed in His character/attributes, His works, and visible radiance, always by means of revelation in some way.

1. Glory Associated With Works: “Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?” – Exodus 15:11
2. Glory Associated With Radiance: “Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.” – Isaiah 6:3 ... “Heaven... the habitation of thy holiness and of thy glory...” – Isaiah 63:15
3. Moral Glory: “Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy.” Revelation 15:4

## **II. God MUST Be Glorified**

### **A. Biblically**

1. God's Willingness to Glorify Himself in Various Ways: "Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." (Jn. 12:28)
2. God's Need to Glorify Himself: "I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images." (Is. 42:8)

### **B. Logically**

1. God cannot but be glorified, since anything He does shows forth His holiness and thus character. When God's holiness is displayed, so is His glory.
2. It is only right for God to be glorified. If God is in Himself the standard of truth and righteousness, and if His glory is the display of such characteristics, to not glorify Himself would be to not uphold what is true and right. Thus He would contradict Himself.

## **III. God's Glory is Seen in EVERYTHING**

- A. Seen in the Existence of Sin – Romans 3:23 – "All have sinned, and fallen short of the glory of God."
- B. Seen in the Cross – John 13:31-32 – "Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him [the Son]. If God be glorified in him [the Son], God shall also glorify him [the Son] in himself, and shall straightway glorify him [the Son]."
- C. Seen in Dispensational Dealings – Romans 11:36 – "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."
- D. Seen in the Church – Ephesians 3:21 – "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."
- E. Seen in His Revelation of Himself – Deuteronomy 5:24 – "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."
- F. Seen in Creation – Psalm 19:1 – "The heavens declare the glory of God."
- G. Seen in Salvation – Romans 15:7 – "Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God."

## **IV. Application: Sold Out for the Glory of God**

- A. Glorifying God at Every Moment of Life, Even Death: "This spake he, signifying by what death he [Peter] should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, 'Follow me.'" (Jn. 21:19)
- B. Glorifying God in Every Component of Life: "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Cor. 6:20)
- C. Glorifying God in Every Action of Life: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31)