

MESMERIZED

A STUDY OF GLORY IN THE SCRIPTURE

RANDY GARISS • 8 SESSIONS

**NEXT
LEVEL**  **ONLINE**

OZARK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 1)

"Glory Seen" part 1

Do we know God?

Jeremiah 9:23-24

John 17:25-26

Those in the Scripture who knew God used the word "GLORY." It is used almost 300 times in the Bible.

- Moses... Exodus 15, "awesome in glory"
- David... Psalm 24, "The King of Glory"
- Ezekiel...Ezekiel 43, "and I saw the glory of the God of Israel"
- Isaiah 6... The seraphim were calling, "the whole earth is full of his glory"

We handle the holy and the scared every day. When we treat what is holy as common, we lose the glory of God.

There is the potential of claiming to live "for God's glory" when it is our own glory we really chase.

- Perhaps it came from a slow drift, like a marriage where one no longer really invest in their mate but settles for investing in a "marriage lifestyle."
- There is a warning about the religion of the "Christian Industry" that uses God's name, but not God's person or character.
- Claiming it is "for God" when it is in fact "for us."

Ephesians 1:12 says "in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory."

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 2)

“Glory Seen” part 2

The imperative is clear, “Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name” (David in Psalm 29)

The word “glory” is used almost 300 times in the Scriptures.

- The Hebrew word “Kah vode” refers to his “weightiness,” his “substance.”
- The Greek word “Doxa” points to “thinking rightly,” to “perceive correctly,” to have the “proper opinion.”

In the Scriptures, there are around 50 attributes of God that are associated with his glory.

- His glory is limitless.
- His glory is intrinsic to him.
- His glory is permanent.

Let’s look at **Psalm 24** as an example of seeing his glory.

24: 1-2, His glory in creation. (See also Psalm 19)

24:3-4, God is holy. (See also Romans 3:23)

In the Old Testament, the glory of God was seen:

- In a pillar of fire and a cloud in Exodus
- On the top of Mt. Sinai as the nation of Israel met with God there
- On the Tabernacle as the presence of God made it holy
- And on the Temple as Solomon dedicated it
- Ezekiel 1 Ezekiel sees the glory of God by seeing “one on a throne...who had the appearance of a man”

In the New Testament, the glory of God was seen in Jesus:

- John 1:14, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
- John 2:11 “What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory...”
- The glory of God is vividly seen in Jesus, and in the gospel and the story of the cross.
- 2 Corinthians 4:6 “For God who said ‘let light shine out of darkness’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ”

Psalm 24:5-6, because of Jesus these promises are ours.

Psalm 24:7-10, Let the King of glory come in!

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 3)

“Glory Seen” part 3

So if “the whole earth is full of his glory” (Isaiah 6:3), why doesn’t everyone see it?

- Matthew 13:13-17
- John 3:19

When you begin to see the glory of God:

1. You will crave more! Moses, who has seen a great deal of God’s glory still craves more of it. Exodus 33. “Show me your glory.”
2. You will know the fear of God. Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge”
 - To get a glimpse of the real God is to react in fear:
 - John falls down like a dead man (Revelation 1)
 - Isaiah cries out “woe is me” (Isaiah 6)
 - Ezekiel said, “I fell facedown” (Ezekiel 1)
 - Job said, “I shut and cover my mouth” (Job 40)
 - Peter cried out, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man” (Luke 5)
 - A man with no fear of God will keep his arrogance and pride. A man with no fear of God will hide his sin. A man with no fear of God will still cherish counterfeit glory.
3. You will align yourself with God. To glorify God is not so much to give him more glory but to acknowledge his glory, to align with it, to recognize it, to point it out, to help someone else see it.
4. You will be transformed.
 - Luke 6:39-40
 - 2 Corinthians 3:18

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (Session 4)

“Glory Shared” part 1

Isaiah 42:8 and 48:11 God says that he does not give his glory to another

Psalm 8: 1, 3-9

- God places his glory on human beings!
- Genesis 1:26-28

What God thinks of a human being is settled when Christ comes into the world.

- The leper in Mark 1
- Matthew 25
- You will never waste your life loving another human being.
- There is an “anawim” principle in Scripture.
- You want to see part of the glory of God? Look around you.

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 5)

“Glory Shared” part 2

The second surprising place God puts his glory is on his church.

Ephesians 3:20-21

1 Timothy 3:14-15

You will never go wrong by loving the church.

- We often don’t understand holy.
 - Punishments that don’t fit the crime:
 - Uzzah was struck down for touching the Ark of the Covenant
 - Moses couldn’t go to the Promise Land because he angrily hit the rock
 - King Saul was removed as king for offering the sacrifice
 - God declared it holy:
 - The Tabernacle was just skin sewn together
 - The Temple was made of stones
 - The church is the same—it is holy because God declares it holy

Hebrews 12:18-24, 28-29

Do you need to remember to treat as holy what God has declared holy?

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 6)

“Glory’s Companion” part 1

Glory’s companion is often suffering.

John 12:23-24, 27-28

John 21:18-21 - The death by which Peter would glorify God

Romans 5:1-3 - Paul puts his suffering and glory together as companions

Romans 8:16-17 - Glory and suffering are again partnered together

How to bring glory to God in our suffering?

- Colossians 1:24 - Christ in the flesh is the only thing “lacking” in your community.
- Mark 8:34-35 - The way of the cross and “losing your life” is not only the way of your salvation. It will be the way of your ministry.

Can I follow a crucified Christ and have no scars?

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 7)

“Glory’s Companion” part 2

So how in the world can “suffering” and the “glory of God” be compatible?

Why would a believer suffer? We suffer because it is a broken world. We suffer because we love people on Christ’s behalf. But there must be more at play than just those answers.

Looking at suffering through the story of Job.

- Job suffers greatly (Job 1 and 2)

- God does appear. (Job 38) - Instead of answering Job he begins to ask Job questions.
 - Do you understand my power?
 - What if God’s wisdom is as high and great as his power?

- Job says, “I shut and cover my mouth”. (Job 40)

What if there is more behind the “veil” than I know?

There are 3 general categories where you see suffering and God’s wisdom at work.

1. God uses suffering to *purify and redeem* Jonah’s own life. (Book of Jonah)
2. God uses Joseph’s *suffering for the saving of other lives*. (Genesis 37-50)
3. And Job’s life and suffering *has encouraged us and helped us to better see God and his glory*.

“Can you thank me that I trust you with this experience, even if I never tell you why?”

***Some of the ideas below are sparked by JD Greear’s book Not God Enough.*

Mesmerized... a study of glory in the Scripture (session 8)

“Glory Yet”

Whatever glimpses of the glory of God one may currently have, those glimpses are nothing compared “to the glory yet to be revealed.”

Job 19:25-27 “I, myself, with these eyes will see.”

This session is for Christ-followers. Heaven is not a human entitlement; it is a gift of Jesus. To reject Jesus is to reject this gift. We appeal to you to know Jesus.

The Bible affirms that this life is not all there is, and that there is more to come than you can imagine.

- Psalm 73:24
- John 14:1-3
- 2 Corinthians 4:14-18

20 things that God has said about we will experience “in this glory yet to be revealed”.

1. When you die, you will not be alone (Psalm 23, Psalm 116:15, Hebrews 13:5)
2. Angels will play a role (Luke 16)
3. There will be the voice of Jesus that wakes you (John 11, John 5)
4. You will be with Jesus. (Philippians 1:23, 2 Corinthians 5:8)
5. You “will receive a rich welcome” (2 Peter 1:11)
6. Your wounds and scars will be gone. (Revelation 7:16-17, 21:3)
7. You get a new body. (Philippians 3:20-21)
8. You will be in the grandest assembly the world has ever known (Revelation 7:9-15)
9. You will be in the presence of God. (Revelation 7 and 21)
10. You will celebrate. (Revelation 19)
11. You will live in a city of beauty, space, trees, rivers, light, and brilliance. (Revelation 21 and 22)
12. You will love. (1 Corinthians 13)
13. You will serve. (Revelation 22:3)
14. And the light of the glory of God will be at the center of it all (Revelation 21:22-27)
15. There will be a second coming to this earth. (Revelation 19)
16. And everything death tried to claim on this world will be redeemed and set free (1 Thessalonians 4)
17. There will be cleansing and sanitizing fire of the earth (2 Peter 3)
18. There will be the first judgment, one that is incredibly simple (Romans 8:1)
19. There will be honoring of servants and the assignments of responsibility (Matthew 16, Matthew 25, 1 Corinthians 3)
20. There will be a new city coming down out of heaven to the new earth. (Revelation 21)

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

This video was made possible with support from:

