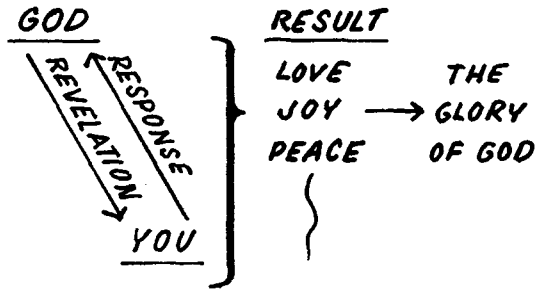


Lesson #1—The Meaning of the Glory of God.



Introduction

- A. How are we to measure our personal success?
- B. Every person is conscious of the need for some type of evaluation. To the clear-thinking Christian this is a matter of deep concern. We all must face the questions related to this basic issue of life.
- C. What is personal success? What is the instrument of measurement that will indicate its presence?
- D. If the possession of money is the indication of success and the size of the bank-account the measurement — then only a very few people may be called "successful". The same would hold true for possessions, or ability, education, beauty, influence, wisdom, strength, or fame.
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- G. Allow me to suggest the Biblical measure of success — it is the glory of God.

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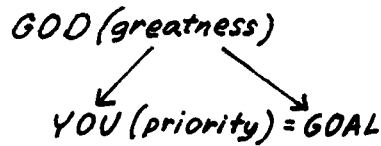
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And ye shall tell my father of **all my glory** in Egypt and of all that ye have seen, and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither. Genesis 45:13
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Declare His glory among the heathen, His marvellous works among all nations.

Glory and honor are in His presence, strength and gladness are in His place.
 And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to Thy holy name, and **glory in Thy praise.**
 I Chronicles 16:10, 24, 27, 35



II. Explanatory Illustrations of the Glory of God.

A. The giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai.

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Observation: The people were not only referring here to the physical effects of the fire, the smoke, and the shaking of the mountains. They had in mind the content of the revelation. God had revealed Himself to them in the giving of the Law.



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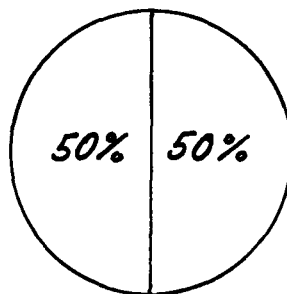
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 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts, **the whole earth is full of His glory.** Isaiah 6:1-3

Observation: Isaiah had never known any other king than Uzziah. When he died the prophet was shown that God was on the throne of Israel. In this vision of God and upon hearing the praise of the heavenly creatures Isaiah suddenly realizes that everything is God's creation, He rules over it all, and it all is closely related to His glory.

C. The promise of God to the troubled saint.

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Observation: It is the will of God that He become involved in all the facets of our life—even our trouble. His promise is to work it all for our good and thereby glorify Himself.



D. The presence of God with the shepherds at the announcement of the birth of Jesus Christ.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. Luke 2:8, 9

Observation: The glory of God here was manifested not only in the appearing of the angels, the content of the announcement of Christ's birth, but also in a brightness which accompanied this great act of God.

E. The miracle of the Lord Jesus at Cana of Galilee.

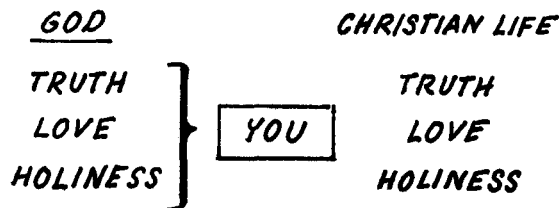
This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory, and His disciples believed on Him. John 2:11

Observation: This first miracle was significant for many reasons. The word "glory" is used here to indicate that this supernatural act of kindness by the Lord Jesus, was a manifestation of Who He really was. He was the Lord of glory, the Creator, the Sovereign God, the Loving Savior.

F. The description of God's provision of salvation and its many benefits.

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:5, 6

Observation: The grace and power of God's person and work are clearly manifested in the regeneration and transformation of the believer. Our salvation brings praise and glory to God.



III. The Biblical Emphasis on the Glory of God.

A. In the Bible the "glory of God" refers to the moral excellence of God's infinite perfections.

1. **The Setting:** Moses at Mt. Sinai—a turning point in His life.

And Moses said unto the Lord, See, Thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people, and Thou hast not let me know whom Thou wilt send with me. Yet Thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in My sight. Exodus 33:12

2. **The Description:** Moses asked to be shown God's "way" and "glory". He is shown the moral excellence of God's person.

Now therefore, I pray Thee, if I have found grace in Thy sight, **shew me now Thy way, that I may know Thee**, that I may find grace in Thy sight, and consider that this nation is Thy people. And He said, **My presence shall go with thee** and I will give thee rest.

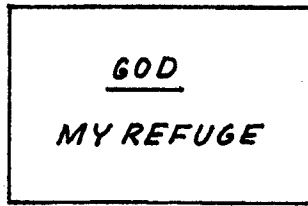
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And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, **The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth**. Exodus 33:13, 14, 18, 19; 34:6

3. **The Explanation:** There is nothing so great, so good, so valuable, so important and so worthy of worship, praise and adoring sacrifice—as the Person of God Himself.

Wherefore David blessed the Lord before all the congregation, and David said, Blessed be Thou, Lord God of Israel our Father, for ever and ever.

Thine, O Lord, is **the greatness, and the power, and the glory,** and the victory, and the majesty, for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine, Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head above all. I Chronicles 29:10, 11



B. In the Bible the "glory of God" refers to the gracious revelation of God.

1. **The Setting:** God's revelation to Israel at Mt. Sinai.

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And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. And there I meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

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3. **The Explanation:** The revelation of God in Jesus Christ was no mere display of divine righteousness—it was a loving invitation of grace.

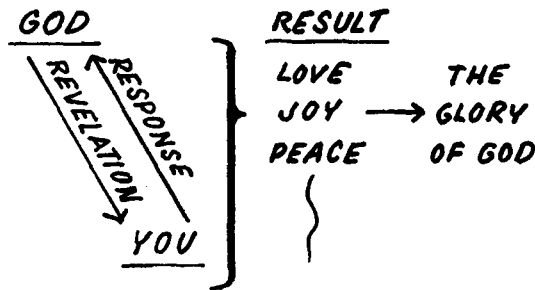
And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Conclusion: What is more important than the Person of our God—His love, His truth, and His holiness?

THE CENTRAL ISSUE

MY WILL | GOD'S WILL

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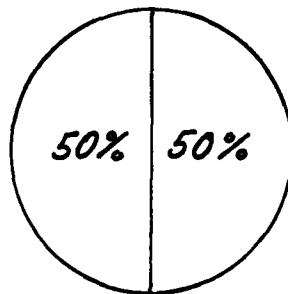
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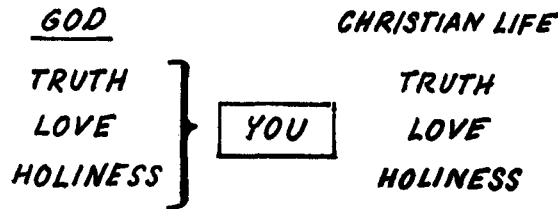
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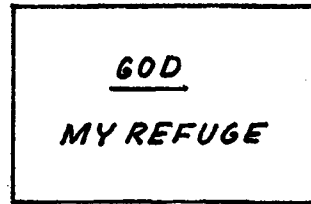
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