



LESSON #4 – HOW TO GLORIFY GOD

Introduction

Revelation 14:6, 7: This is the **second imperative** or **command** that the **gospel** makes on us. The word is *doxa* where we get the word **doxology**.

*“Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—⁷ **saying with a loud voice:** “Fear God and **give glory to Him**, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”*

No Glory to Give

Romans 3:23: “. . . for all have sinned and fall short [“to lack”] of the glory of God.”

How can we give glory to God when we actually don’t have any glory to give?

Before we can answer this question we must ask another:

What is God’s glory?

God’s glory, literally speaking, is like a raging fire

Exodus 24:15-17: “Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain.¹⁶ Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud¹⁷ The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.”

This is not the glory that the first angel’s message is referring to.

Moses was a type of Jesus

Deuteronomy 18:18: *"I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him."*

Moses Requests to see God's Glory

Exodus 33:18: *"And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."*

Exodus 33:19: *"Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."*

Exodus 34:5-7: *"Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord.⁶ And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."*

His glory is seen in His created works

Psalms 19:1: *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork."*

His glory is seen in His works of redemption

Psalms 79:9: *"Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; and deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins, for Your name's sake!"*

God's glory is to save the lost

Psalms 85:9: *"Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him that glory may dwell in our land."*

The Face of Moses shone with the glory of God

Exodus 34:29: *"Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him."*

Because Moses had been with God

Exodus 33:11 *So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend."*

It was **Jesus who spoke** with Moses in the **burning bush** and on **Mt. Sinai**

Meekest Man on Earth

Numbers 12:3: *“Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.”*

The World Book Dictionary: to be meek means:

“not easily angered, mild, patient, forbearing, gentle, docile, submissive, courteous, compassionate, humble, merciful. The divine grace of self-restraint in the face of malicious criticism.”

Moses not Always Meek

Moses was **not always** this way. Moses had a **violent temper**

Exodus 2:11, 12: *“Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.”¹² So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.”*

- He had assimilated the **ideas** and **attitudes** of his environment.
- The life of Moses was divided into **three forties**.
- The **first forty** was in Egypt.
- The **second forty** was tending Jethro’s sheep.
- The **third forty** was tending **God’s sheep** in the wilderness. He never lost His temper and was willing to give his life for His people
- He exercised **perfect control** and exhibited the **patience of Jesus**.
- In fact, the **meekness of Jesus** rubbed off on Moses and this was the **glory on His face** as we are told in **II Corinthians 3**

On Greater than Moses: The Glory of the Father

We beheld His glory: grace and truth are His glory.

John 1:14: *“And the Word became 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.”*

The son revealed the **glory of the Father**

John 1:18: *“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”*

Jesus sought to bring **glory to His Father**, not to Himself

John 7:18: *“He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.”*

Spent time with His Father on a mountain

Matthew 14:23: *“And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. And when evening had come, He was alone there.”*

Mark 1:35: *“Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.”*

When Jesus **came out of communion** with His Father **they saw the glory** of His Father on the **face of Jesus**

II Corinthians 4:6: *“For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*

My family and I have visited the Grand Teton National Park in northwestern Wyoming, and have enjoyed viewing the outstanding scenery there. There is one spectacular scene where we are standing by a certain lake in the early morning that is clear as crystal, no ripples in the water, as if there is an enormous mirror reflecting the mountains in the distance. It is so still it is difficult to determine where the mountains begin (reality) and where the reflection (non-reality) is. Just so, when Jesus was asked to show His disciples the Father, He told them that **“He who has seen me has seen the Father.”**

John 14:8-10: *“Philip said to Him, “Lord, **show us the Father**, and it is sufficient for us.”⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ”¹⁰ Do you not believe that **I am in the Father, and the Father in Me**? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the **Father who dwells in Me** does the works.”*

People in Christ’s day thought that **illness** was a **result of sin**—that God actually **punished people with illness**.

His **miracles** are His glory

John 2:11: *“This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.”*

Resurrection of Lazarus was His glory

John 11:4, 40: *"When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." . . .⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"*

Healed the sick because **God was with Him**

Acts 10:38: *" . . . how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."*

When He revealed God's glory the people gave glory to Him

Luke 13:13: When He revealed God's glory the people returned the glory to God. Woman **18 years bent over**

Luke 17:15: One of the **ten lepers** came back, glorified God and gave thanks to Jesus

Luke 18:43: The **blind man** glorified God and the people praised the Lord

Luke 7:16: When he **raised the son of the widow of Nain** the people glorified God

At the end of His life He says to His Father: **I have revealed your glory**

John 17:4, 22, 23: *"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. . . .²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."*

His glory was His death

John 12:23, 24: *"But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. ²⁴ Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."*

Reflecting His Glory

Jesus is the **original light** of the sun

John 8:12: *"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light** of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*

We are like the **moon to reflect His light**. We are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:14 -16: *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

I Peter 2:11, 12: *"Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹² having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation."*

God is glorified when we bear **much fruit**

John 15:8: *"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."*

Galatians 5:22, 23: *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."*

Peter glorified God by His death. Every martyr gave glory to God

John 21: 18, 19: *"Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." ¹⁹ This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God."*

Final Revelation of Glory

The earth will be **full of God's glory**

Revelation 18:1: *"After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory."*

Notice what God's glory is, **his character**

Isaiah 58:6-8: *"Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free and that you break every yoke?⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him and not hide yourself from your own flesh?⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard."*

Glorify in Body and Spirit

How our **health** affects our capacity to glorify God

I Corinthians 6:19, 20: *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”*

I Corinthians 10:31: *“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”*

Romans 12:1, 2: *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

Body affects the brain, the brain affects the mind, the mind is the only medium through which God can communicate with us.

- Alcohol
- Coffee
- Smoking
- Drugs
- Eating forbidden foods

1Timothy 4:1-5: *“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth ⁴ For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving ⁵ for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.”*

Genesis 1:29-30: *“And God said, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.”*

We are **being changed** into His likeness by **beholding**.

I once had a student who spent three years in the classroom who aced every class he took. He always sat on the front row and took copious notes. A few years ago I was traveling and met a woman who asked me if I knew this student. When I said yes she said: “You preach just like he does.” I then told her that he had been my student for three years and she said: “Now I know why he preaches like you do.” The point is that when you spend quality time with someone you eventually come to reflect that person.

Butterflies go through the process of metamorphosis

II Corinthians 3:18: *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

In that marvelous devotional book **Sons and Daughters of God** we find this **beautiful commentary** on this verse:

“By beholding Christ, by talking of Him, by beholding the loveliness of His character we become changed. Changed from glory to glory. And what is glory? Character—and he becomes changed from character to character. Thus we see that there is a work of purification that goes on by beholding Jesus.” **Sons and Daughters of God**, p. 337

When we watch violence, sex, profanity, cheating, lying, we are changed into the likeness of these things. **Physically** we are what we eat through our **mouth**. **Spiritually** we are what we eat through our **ears and eyes**.