

## **Ever-Increasing Glory**

2Cor. 3:7-18

7 Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was,

8 will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?

9 If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!

10 For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory.

11 And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

13 We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away.

14 But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away.

15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

18 And we, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The Christian Life by design is one of ever increasing glory!

Pr. 4:18 - The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.

Jn. 3:30 - He must increase, but I must decrease.

The Life of Christ is ever increasing in the life of the believer!

In Jn. 15:1-7 it is the life of progression from bringing forth fruit, to more fruit, to much fruit.

Ga 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The glory of a thing is in how truly it reveals or represents its author or creator!

### **1. We must be willing to be transformed!**

2.Cor. 3:18a - And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory,

KJV - "Beholding as in a glass (mirror) the glory of the Lord."

Reflect= contemplate, look into, behold

There must be a deliberate setting of our attention upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

Col 3:2 - Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

KJV - Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Rev. 4:1 says, "Come up here! I got some things to show you!"

Hebrews 12:2 - fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The main reason we are to fix our eyes on Jesus is not just so we can admire Him and talk about how wonderful He is, but the main reason is so that we can learn to act like and become more like Him!

If you are part of the “we” in 2 Cor.3:18, there should be a transformation happening!

2 Cor.3:18b - are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory

There should be an ever-increasing glory that makes us look more and more like Jesus!

## **2. We must be willing to hold nothing back from Jesus!**

We must be more than just “present”!

#1 Manifesting himself to us

#2 Manifesting himself in us

#3 Manifesting himself through us

The general population of the church is satisfied to sit back and see a manifestation of Gods power... But God wants us to BE a Manifestation of his power!

Rom. 8:19 - The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

KJV - For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

## **3. We must be willing to tune our ears to the Kings voice!**

We must not only hear what he has said, but what he is NOW saying!

Revelation = What he is saying now for such a time as this.

The closer we live to the king, the easier it is to hear his voice!

The closer we live to the king, the more we will take on his attributes!

#### **4. We must be willing to walk in the fear of God again!**

There must be a Holy reverential awe for the presence of God and his Power!

If we're going to see an ever-increasing glory, we must stop being so comfortable with sin!

Dr. Dale Robins – "Let's face an important fact right up front. Persons who profess to be Christians, yet practice a continued lifestyle of sin and immorality, are really not Christians. The Bible makes it crystal clear that persons who practice lifestyles of "adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries," and so forth, will NOT inherit the kingdom of God (Gal. 5:19-21). It doesn't matter whether they claim Jesus as their Lord or not. Persons who live like this are not right with God. Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matt 7:21)."

Joshua 3:1-5

1. Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over.
2. After three days the officers went throughout the camp,
3. giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it.
4. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it."
5. Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

When the proper fear of the Lord is in place, we can expect to see the LORD doing amazing things among us!

**5. We must be willing to turn loose of the familiar and the comfortable!**

The price of the new is the old!

God cannot put anything else in your hands if you won't let go of what's in there now!

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