

BACK TO THE BEGINNING GLORIFYING GOD

Everything exists for the purpose of glorifying God. The Westminster Shorter Catechism of the seventeenth century begins by stating that the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. These writers understood where maturing starts. It starts with man giving glory and honor to his Creator, God.

The theme of glorifying God is taught all through Scripture. The universe glorifies God. The vast reaches of space and all that is in them glorifies God. Psalm 19:1-3 says, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. *There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.*”

The beasts of the field honor and glorify God. Angels honor and glorify God. The angels who appeared at the birth of Jesus said, “And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:13-14).

David said, “I have set the LORD always before me: because *he is* at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope” (Psalm 16:8-9). David’s focus was on God and His glory. Therefore, he reaped an inward harvest that nothing in this world could ever bring.

Maturing starts or spiritual growth begins by focusing upon God’s glory. Paul said to the church at Corinth: “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even as by the Spirit of the Lord*” (2 Corinthians 3:18). When we as Christians behold the glory of God, when we think upon the glory of God, this beholding changes us, it transforms us, from one degree of glory to another.

God deserves glory, in fact, God demands glory from His creation. God will settle for nothing less.

One writer said, “God’s judgment has fallen on the human race because of its failure to give Him glory. The apostle Paul recounts mankind’s defection from the truth in Romans 1-3. In Romans 1:21, he tell us the basic problem with mankind: “When they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God.”

When man abandons the concept of glorifying God, he has cut himself off from spiritual light. Christian's that do not glorify God will not mature in a proper manner.

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