



Living in the Glory of God

2 Corinthians 3:4-18
February 20, 2022

The Big Idea: Living in the glory of God is to be **fixated** on Him, regardless of what is happening around us. Only through the work of the Holy Spirit can we see the **truth** (the Glory of God). God's Glory means we will see our lostness, cry out to Jesus for salvation, and seek a total **transformation** of our lives through the work of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:5-18 (ESV)

3 ⁴ *Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God.*

⁵ Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but **our sufficiency is from God,** ⁶ who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. **For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.**

⁷ Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with **such glory** that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, ⁸ will not the ministry of the Spirit have even **more glory**? ⁹ For if there was glory in the **ministry of condemnation**, the **ministry of righteousness** must far exceed it in glory. ¹⁰ *Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it.* ¹¹ For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is **permanent** have glory.

¹² Since we have such a hope, we are **very bold,** ¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴ But **their minds were hardened.** For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because **only through Christ is it taken away.** ¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now **the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.** ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, **beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed** into the **same image from one degree of glory to another.** For **this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.**

How Do We Live in the Glory of God?

1. **Commit to the Truth.** The Lord used the old covenant (The Law) to show us who He is, who we are, and how much we need a Savior. We cannot know the Glory of God apart from a commitment to know the Truth.
2. **Understand Both the Old and New Covenants.** In the Old Covenant, we see our separation from God and need for a Savior. In the New Covenant, we experience the work of Christ on the Cross and the Holy Spirit's transformation of our hearts. *Ezekiel 36:26-27*
3. **Trust the Holy Spirit to Do What Only He Can Do.** There is an explanation for why a spiritually lost friend doesn't understand the meaning of Scripture and can't see their need for Jesus. Only through a work of the Spirit can a closed mind be opened, a hard heart be softened, and blind eyes see again. *Acts 26:15-18*
4. **Keep Your Eyes On the Lord.** *A commitment to trust Jesus as Savior and Lord is just the beginning of the God's work in our lives. His audacious goal is not to make us marginally better people, but to completely transform us to be like Jesus. 1 John 3:1-2*

¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, **beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed** into the **same image from one degree of glory to another.**

2 Corinthians 3:18
