

God's Eternal Glory

"Glory" is "praise, honor, or distinction extended by common consent," and "worshipful praise, honor, and thanks-giving." "Glory" can be sought for oneself, as in, "He was seeking the glory of being first"; but those who self-centeredly seek "glory" in this way settle for something significantly less than and different from the "glory" defined above.

The greatest, highest, purest "glory" is given by others to those who selflessly do what is good and right for others at great personal sacrifice. This is true in the fullest sense of the "glory of God."

- He didn't have to create us, but thank God he did!
- He didn't have to create us in his own image, but in so doing he deserves far more admiration and praise than we will ever be able to give him.
- He didn't have to send his beloved Son into time and in bodily form, but blessed be his name forever, he did!
- He didn't have to let him die; and certainly not the awful death of becoming the sin-offering for us; so that he had to break the eternal face- to-face-approval of his Son when he "forsook" him on the Cross! But had he not done so, what a tragedy that would have for us!

It is no wonder then that we give him glory now for every saving act of grace, from the first ray of convicting light to the glorious restoration of his image in us when His Son returns! And it is no wonder that all the saints of all the ages will give him glory forever for his amazing grace!

Singing the song, Amazing Grace, written by John Newton more than two hundred years ago, has been a tremendous blessing ever since its inception. If you know the tune, an early American melody, why not hum or sing it now! It also serves as a means of spiritual uplift when read slowly for a period of meditation. Why not use it for that purpose also right now!

Amazing Grace! how sweet the sound!
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost. but now I am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro'. Many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come,
'Tis grace hath bro't me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright, shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing
God's praise Than when we first begun

Wasn't that great! In this writer's childhood and youth we then added this chorus:

And when the battle's over
We will wear a crown. Yes,
We will wear a crown.
And when the battle's over
We will wear a crown
In the New Jerusalem!

Do you realize that not only can we give glory to God by word and song; but by lives of sacrificial love for Him and others for whom His Son died; not only throughout eternity, but now? That is precisely the purpose for which He created us in His Image; then provided grace to restore us from our sinfulness back to that image.

Do you ask, "How can that be? How can I live such a life now, and for eternity?" Our In Christ Fellowship ministry has outlined the way in articles available on our website (below) The article "Good News!—Final Edition!" is the summarized version; and "God's Salvation Plan" is the full version that inserts the scriptural passages that support each insight in the plan; and In Christ Fellowship challenges you to join or form a small group to further this soul-winning ministry.

We hope that you will prayerfully read these articles, accept these insights, and be willing to share them with others within the sphere of your influence, If so, we will plan to meet you and those you influence to accept these insights—on the other side!

Yours, "in Christ,"

Brother Jim

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Note: You can learn more about this ministry at www.InChristFellowship.org. We encourage you to contact us at Support@InChristFellowship.org if you have questions or need help in applying these truths in your own life. We do not maintain a "membership roll," nor do we solicit monetary contributions; yet, we also encourage you to contact us if you feel led of the Lord, to participate in our efforts in some way.

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