

It's All About God's Glory Given to Us

By B. D. Tate

Why don't we see God's glory? We have fallen from grace and in our sin condition our eyes are blinded to the truth. Our pride blinds us to spiritual things because as a natural being we cannot receive them.

I Cor. 2: 14 **But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them,** because they are spiritually discerned.

This means the glory of God was hidden as it were from our eyes (veiled); however, God's glory began to be revealed in the ***Mosaic Law***. The glory of the law was limited and impersonal. Furthermore, it was a ministry of condemnation and death...even if it had glory.

II Cor. 3: 7 **But if the ministry of death**, written and engraved on stones, **was glorious**, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, **which glory was passing away**,
8 how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?
9 For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory.

Now in Christ Jesus through faith God's glory is fully being manifest among those who believe. The righteousness of Christ has made us alive in Him; being made alive we get to see His glory! This glory is unlimited and very personal.

Rom. 9: 22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, *endured with much longsuffering* the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,
23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

God's will and purpose is for us to have poured out into our hearts His love, mercy, grace, and glory! The glory of God is the mystery of the gospel which is Christ in us!

Col 1:27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you**, the hope of glory.

God didn't want us relating to regulations and statutes; He wanted us relating to His Son. There is a glory in the law; but there is a far greater glory in God's grace! For sinners the law was to expose our blindness and it kept us imprisoned in darkness (Gal. 3:22) until Christ came. Now that Christ has come all of the riches of His love, mercy, and glory are found in Him—**who is in us!**

John 1:17 **For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.**

The Glory of the Law Vs. The Glory of Grace In Jesus

The Law didn't blind us to God's glory; it revealed our blindness in sin and pride. As long as we contend with the law we remain **veiled** from the glory of Christ (II Cor. 3:15). As long as we even consider trying to keep the law in any way we are under a curse (Gal. 5:4). The law isn't the source of the curse; it is our **sin nature** operating under law. It was the law however, that reproduced or manifested sin in us—the power behind the curse (I Cor. 15:56). The law exposed it, revealed it, and showed us what sin really is—selfishness, self willed, and lacking the love of God. Sin falls short completely missing **the glory of God**. This means we miss our purpose in life which is to see, know, and experience God's glory.

The Glory of God is Revealed (In Us) Only Through Grace; Not By Keeping the Law...

Under the law, for example, we could not touch the sick because it would make us sick. Diseases and plagues held power over us because we were sinners and the curse of the law held us imprisoned to it (Gal. 3:23). Under grace having been freed from the curse of the law (Gal. 3:13), we are empowered by the Spirit and commissioned to lay hands on the sick!

Mr 16:18 "...they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

In short: under the law it was the unclean that made the clean, unclean; Now under grace it is the clean that make the unclean, clean. **The Glory of God's power in grace is greater than sin and the curse (Rom. 5:20)...**

When we were born into the world in sin nature, it meant we were under the governance of the principles of this world. It meant that the very thing God created us to govern, governed us. Instead of being the Sons of God ruling and reigning with Christ Jesus (Rom. 5:17), we were born into slavery and subject to the “beggarly” elements of this realm (Gal. 4:9). Under grace we have been freed from the dominion of sin and darkness and translated into the kingdom of His dear Son!

Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

In short: under law that which we were to govern, governs us; Under grace we govern over that which governed us. **The Glory of God's power is revealed in the liberty of Christ over all things (II Cor. 3:17)...**

Under the law we were separated from God's love, wisdom, peace, and presence. Our sins were constantly being examined and judged by the

law. We were born into condemnation, strife, guilt, shame, and reproach. The burden of life came solely upon each of us and made us responsible. Under grace the offense of separation has been taken away (Col. 2:14). The condemnation of the law and all of its judgments have been satisfied and fulfilled in Christ's atonement (John 19:30) on our behalf; therefore, the love of God has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5); Jesus has been made unto us wisdom, righteousness, and peace when we became born again!

1Co 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, **who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—**

In short: *under law we were separated from God condemned in sin; Under grace sin is condemned **and separated from us** and the law is satisfied; therefore, we are drawn close to God in Christ Jesus. **The power of God's glorious love triumphs over judgment (Jas. 2:13)...***

Under the law we were burdened with fear knowing that our hope of finding peace with God was impossible; for by works in trying to keep the law no one will be justified before Him (Gal. 2:16). We can't earn peace with God ever. We can't earn His blessing ever. We can't make Him respond to us or do for us ever. If God hasn't already decided to give us His kingdom, we'd never enter it. **Under grace everything is a gift given to everyone who believes!**

Gal. 3: 22 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, **that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.**

In Short: *Under law we were without hope and without God—no peace; under grace we have been given **the gift of righteousness** and peace through the promised Holy Spirit to everyone who believes. **The Glory of His Christ is the Prince of Peace given without reservation (Rom. 5:1)...***

What is the end result and meaning of this grace?

It is that God ***will not accept one ounce of human boasting*** before Him!

Eph. 2: 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God,**
9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

It Means That Life is All About God

It is God who created, God who supplied, and God who has given and given again. It is God who sustains and God who upholds all things (Heb. 1:3). Life is about God's love, God's sharing, God's nature, God's fellowship, God's friendship, God's authority, God's servant heart, God's truth, God's person, God's character, God's purpose, God's attributes, and God's revelations.

Sin has perverted everything. Our selfishness has made us look at God as if He was like us—this misses His glory (we won't see Him like this). The curse of the law upon the earth has brought forth sickness, death, and dying (Deut. 28). The brokenness of life, the suffering, the loss, the lack, the confusion, the violence, the hatred, the emptiness and darkness, has prevented us from knowing God or seeing Him. The purpose of life is to know God and fellowship with Him (John 17:3). **The purpose of life is for us to understand, see, and experience God's glory through our being.**

God is not like us we have fallen from being like Him. We have fallen from grace. We have fallen from the source of life, the giver, the supplier, the sustainer, the lover, the meaning of it all. Grace is God's unmerited favor; it (grace) is His pleasure to give us the kingdom. When Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive*" our sin nature doesn't comprehend that. God is always standing in the "**more blessed**" position towards us. **He will forever be the giver, the supplier, and remain in the more blessed position.**

This is hard for us to take in but God is not looking to receive anything from us. Immediately we might respond by saying, “Well, that’s not true. God wants us to worship Him, to praise Him, to love Him!” I know this may sound strange but even though that is true, **all of these things are in response to receiving Him and seeing His glory.** We worship only when we have seen Him. We see Him only when we receive revelation of Him. We praise Him only when we see what He’s done; what His grace supplies. We love Him only when we truly receive His love!

1Jo 4:19 **We love Him because He first loved us.**

Where does the act of worship derive from? It comes from His gift to us to see Him. Where does praise come from? It comes from His gift to know, see, hear, sense, and understand; it comes from having a will to respond and give praise. Where does our love for Him come from? It comes from receiving His love for us—it is that simple. **There is nothing we can give Him except return to Him what He’s given to us.** We are profitable servants when we are ***responding to His initiatives in our life.*** **We don’t plant anything in God; God plants everything in us—including His Son!**

It’s all about Him. We get to live, to know, to experience His life, His love, His peace, His comfort, His future, His glory...***and as we do all of it is from His constant flow of giving.*** He doesn’t need anything from us; He isn’t waiting to be given anything. He is actually waiting for us to acknowledge everything good that is in us because of Christ (Phile. 1:6); and when we do He is blessed because we are being blessed.

Grace upon grace; life upon life—it is Jesus giving us His glory!

Joh 17:22 "**And the glory which You gave Me I have given them**, that they may be one just as We are one”

In short: *God has sent us His word to heal us; sent us His Son to save us; sent us His Spirit to comfort us; sent us His peace to guide us; given us faith to overcome the world; given us His wisdom to instruct and teach*

us; given us Himself because there is nothing greater to give (He's given us His glory)!

When God gives us Himself He is giving us His glory. God's nature is to give, to supply, to feed, to fulfill, to provide, to guide, to give and give again! There will never come a time when God doesn't give! It is such joy and blessing to Him to give and for us to receive ***from Him of our own free will.*** His nature is so full of giving, after giving us everything, He gave us Himself! **There is nothing beyond, above, thinkable, imaginable, or possible to be given greater than Himself!**

Our Skewed Perspectives

I know we spend our life trying to earn respect. We are trying to please others. We are trying to make our own way in this world. We want to do our part. No one feels good about being a "free-loader." We have seen a lot of taking and maybe have done our share—**but God is not like that.** We want to feel good about ourselves as someone who is responsible, well-balanced, providing for ourselves, and not being a burden to anyone.

It is such a confused mess this sinful world has made. We see things backwards and are positive we are correct. God is not like us. He is not up in heaven keeping a record on us waiting for us to make mistakes so that He can punish us. God is not up in heaven waiting for us to give to Him what He's owed. He gave us the law so that we'd come to our senses and realize it was always about His grace towards us. We'd never be able to earn it and deserve it. It was always about God's love being lavished upon us. Nothing disturbs the Father more than someone who thinks they are entitled and have earned His grace. Nothing stops grace faster than pride.

Jas 4:6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God **resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.**"

I think the strongest world consciousness is our personal judgment of weighing the good things we've done verses the bad. If I can have more good stuff hopefully it will outweigh the bad stuff in my life. God is not like this examining every detail, scrutinizing every thought, listing every move we make. Where have we gotten this idea? We have gotten it from the law. The law judges us. The law measures everything without fail back to us (Matt. 7:2). It is the condemnation of the law! As perfect as the law is it is passing away; the glory of justice, truth, and judgment brought no life or reconciliation between God and man. It merely revealed the extreme problem and separation. The ministry and glory of the law was fulfilled in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:13).

Listen and take in this passage over and over again!

Col. 2: 13 **And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh,** He has made alive together with Him, **having forgiven you all trespasses,**

14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

God has satisfied His own righteousness in regards to the law's judgments against us when Jesus sacrificed Himself to pay for all our sins forever (Heb. 10:14). The law has been satisfied and fulfilled. All of its claims paid. **The law is now silenced forever in regards to all of our sins because the blood of Christ is more than enough to pay for them.** The law was given not to make us righteous but to show us our unrighteousness.

Ga 3:19 What purpose then does the law serve? **It was added because of transgressions,**

Through the Law is the Knowledge of Sin (Rom. 3:20)

The law's purpose was to bring to light our impossible predicament. We cannot save ourselves; we cannot earn salvation. We will never be righteous to stand before God on our own merits—pure foolishness. God knowing the end from the beginning sent His Son into the world to save it. ***The gift of eternal life*** comes at great costs, great sacrifice, great grace, and great compassion. How can we measure the love of God? Jesus said,

Joh 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, **than to lay down one's life for his friends.**

Ro 8:32 **He who did not spare His own Son**, but delivered Him up for us all, **how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?**

How can we doubt that God will give us what we need and more if He has already done it? The scriptures time and again speak to what God has done in Christ as already decided and already given.

2Pe 1:3 as His divine power **has given** to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **has blessed** us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

What We Are Really Struggling To See

The struggle is no longer with the law. The ministry of condemnation and death has been taken away (II Cor. 3:9)! We are no longer under the law but under grace (Rom. 6:14). When we struggle with these things we are remaining as children who are enslaved by a task master (Gal. 4:1-6). **We are to be mature realizing and accepting the full atonement in Christ Jesus.** We are now sons and daughters having received the Spirit of His Son (Gal. 4:6). We don't struggle with sin nature but set it aside as if it were done and dead (Rom. 6:11). We don't struggle with the world and its lusts and being subject to the curse.

We struggle with one thing. We struggle to embrace the giving nature of God towards us. We are struggling to believe what God has done is true in us. We are struggling to see fully the glory, grace, love, and compassion of God. We are struggling to see God as He really is...

Eph. 2: 4 But God, **who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,**

5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 that **in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.**

Conclusion:

It is God's "giving glory" to raise us up not by any worthiness of our own; but through **His magnanimous nature of love ("because of His great love with which He loved us")**. God didn't create us to suffer, to be defeated, depressed, dejected, sick or rejected—that is the curse! **His plans have always been to for us to see His glory in us.** We were created to be receivers. We are receiving of God's giving Spirit always, then in turn, to pour out that love to others. God is the supplier; we are the channels and vessels **with a willing spirit to manifest His glory.** It is our willing spirit to see God in His grace towards us that puts us in right standing with God. When we see Jesus in His intercessory role (Heb. 7:25) on our behalf in all of God's glory; God sees us in faith and it fully pleases Him to give us the kingdom.

God wants to reproduce in us the same image of Christ (II Cor. 3:18). He wants us **to experience** the fullness of His love and power (John 1:16). He wants us to accept full forgiveness and full redemption having been made a new creation—behold all things are new (II Cor. 5:17)!

2Co 10:17 But "he who glories, let him glory in the LORD."

If we want to please the Lord receive and believe all that He has done.

Rise up and acknowledge in the face of brokenness, the curse of the law, fallen circumstances, and lying temporary conditions **that we are sons and daughters of the Most High and these things shall not stand** (Mark 11:23, 24). These things (that have held us back) come to nothing in Jesus. If we'll rise up and believe that God has already given to us His full glory from within it will begin to manifest in joy, peace, love, patience, kindness, gentleness, self control, goodness, and authority in Jesus' name. We are predestined to be full of His glory; we are to see it, live in it, and believe in Him—in Jesus.