

## THE GLORY OF GOD

Week 8 – Please Show Me Your Glory

March 18, 2025

Ex. 33:17-18 - *So the Lord said to Moses, 'I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name.'* <sup>18</sup> *And he said, 'Please, show me Your glory.'* This was a prayer to know God more deeply/more intimately. Moses told God “I desire to know more of You.” Moses had a deep heart hunger. CONSIDER: to go deeper with God, you need a holy dissatisfaction with where you're at.

*Show me Your glory* - Moses had already SEEN the glory of God (Exodus 16:10 and 24:16-17 – the glory of God rested on Mt. Sinai. God called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud and Moses went into the midst of the cloud where God was and communed with God for 40 days/40 nights)...YET, Moses wanted MORE!

Ex. 33: 19 - *I will make all My goodness pass before you...*

God did not state “all My justice, power, judgment” will pass before you. Why did God declare that He would display all His goodness?

CONSIDER: GOD IS ENTIRELY GOOD! Even His justice and power, judgment and wrath must be understood as His goodness – ALL manifested, ALL revealed – ALL to God's glory!

God's severity is good. Israel witnessed the severity of God (how seriously God looked at and dealt with their sin)....

Ex. 32:28 – “about” 3,000 men of the people fell that day – the day the children of Israel worshiped the golden calf/the idol!

The severity of God led them to repentance at Moses' tent of meeting when Moses interceded for the people.

Do we realize that the goodness of God is prominent in the opening chapters of the Bible? Repeatedly, God pronounced everything which He created as “good” (Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21 – and in v. 25 everything was “very good”). We need to remember that in the Garden of Eden, Satan's first ploy was to tempt Eve to doubt God's goodness. Satan seems to especially use this tactic when we are going through difficult trials. The enemy/the adversary Satan whispers, “If God was really good, He wouldn't allow you to go through this! What kind of God would put His children through such a thing?”

In God's communication to Moses, He lovingly told him...*I will make all my goodness pass before you and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you...* “The name” represented a person's character and nature. And God immediately, after His statement about His name proclaimed... *I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.* '

*You cannot see My face* (paniym – presence); *for no man shall see Me, and live...* Ex. 33:11 - the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend – which speaks of fellowship...of intimacy. The Hebrew root for paniym is “panah,” which means “the part that

turns"! God sees all things in His presence. King David asked, "Where can I flee from Your presence?" (Psa. 139).

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God is spirit; He does not have a face. I Tim. 6:16 declares of God, ...*WHO alone has immortality* (God is eternal), *dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see*. In the Gospel of John we read - *No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him* (Jn. 1:18).

*Please show me Your glory.* Is God speaking of His full glory? I'm suggesting that whatever Moses experienced was only a glimpse of what is still to be experienced as noted by Ezekiel when he was given a vision of the glory of God in the Millennial Kingdom...in the future. Eze. 44:4 - *He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple; so I looked, and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD; and I fell on my face.*

How did God prepare Moses re: Moses' request?

Ex. 33:21 - *And the LORD said, 'Here is a place by Me, (GOD expressed His desire to place Moses BY HIM!!!!) and you shall stand on the rock.* God gave Moses a specific place to stand – on the Rock! How fitting that Moses would experience the LORD Who is the Rock (Dt. 32:4) while standing on the rock!

Ex. 33:22 - *So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock* (cleft - a crevice; a fissure – a long, narrow opening or break in a rock made by cracking or splitting), *and will cover you* (shut you in; hedge you about; fence you in) *with My hand while I pass by.*

OBSERVE: God's glory could not *remain* in front of Moses, God's glory had to pass by Moses. Even with that, Moses had to be protected by the hand of God and the cleft of the rock when the glory of God passed before him. How does this speak to you about God?

Ex. 33:23 - *Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back* (behind Him); *but My face shall not be seen.* Moses would only see the aftereffect of God's brightness/God's radiant glory...behind God...the aftereffects of God's radiant glory which had just passed by! Aftereffect can be substituted with "consequence", "result", or "outcome."

Can we understand that whenever God draws near to us, as we respond to Him – in glorifying God, in being well-pleasing to Him – God then reveals, He conceals/tucks us away, He protects, and He blesses? God rewarded the desire of Moses to see His glory – as much as is humanly possible. God rewards the deep hunger of our hearts!

#### Exodus 34

Ex. 34:1-2 – *And the LORD said to Moses, 'Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke. <sup>2</sup> So be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself to Me there on the*

*top of the mountain.* Here is a demonstration of God's mercy. The people had worshiped an idol after hearing the 10 commandments. The people had worshiped an idol while God and Moses met on Mt. Sinai...while God instructed Moses re: constructing the tabernacle where the people would WORSHIP GOD. And, in the midst of God's judgment poured out on the children of Israel ("about" 3,000 died [23,000 died - plague])...Moses' tent of meeting resulted in an intense desire on the part of Moses and the people who worshiped the golden calf...to seek after God and to worship Him! God was willing to begin again with His people and God once again instructed them concerning His ways...

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*Ex. 34:4-7 - So he (Moses) cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone. <sup>5</sup> Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD . <sup>6</sup> And the LORD passed before him. AND GOD proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <sup>7</sup> keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity (guilt) and transgression (rebellion) and sin (depraved [perverted, deviant, corrupted]).* These are all mentioned: iniquity (guilt), transgression (rebellion), and sin (depravity, perversion)...so that no one might think there are some types of sin God is unable to forgive. God can forgive ALL!

AND, this REVELATION of the character of God forever does away with the idea that the God of the OT is bad, unfair, judgmental to the point of non-loving...as some people think!!  
...continuing in Ex. 34:7 - we read that God...

*by no means clears the guilty...* Sin is an offense to our holy God and His holiness demands that the penalty for sin be paid... And so the Messiah was promised Who would shed His blood to redeem us if we place our belief, our trust in Him.

*visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.* God is expressing continuance while God is proclaiming HOPE! No matter how great our sin may be, God's grace is GREATER. Israel will continue.

*The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <sup>7</sup> keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving....*

The answer for everyone....hope in God and in His salvation through Jesus the Messiah! God freely forgives those who acknowledge that God is God and they are NOT – who acknowledge their sin and place their trust in Jesus.

Moses had petitioned God to forgive His people who had sinned greatly – and to dwell in their midst – not because they were righteous, but because He is GRACIOUS and FORGIVING! Moses' response to this revelation of God was INSTANTANEOUS...*So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped!*

QUESTIONS:

What impacted you?

If you read the handout prior to the class, how has God used this Scripture in your life?

How would you use this portion to share God with others?

Share something from your Glory of God Journal.

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK:

Reread Week 8 with the Bible references.

Continue writing in your Glory of God Journal.

Share this lesson with others.

Read Week 9's handout when you receive it.