

Message Nine

The Temple of God Filled with the Glory of God

JL Hymns: 948, 976

Scripture Reading: Exo. 24:16; 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11;
Acts 7:2, 55; John 17:22; Eph. 3:21; Rev. 5:13; 21:9-11

- Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
- Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
- Exo 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud settled on it and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
- 1 Kings 8:10 And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, the cloud filled the house of Jehovah;
- 1 Kings 8:11 And the priests were not able to stand and minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah.
- Acts 7:2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,
- Acts 7:55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;
- John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;
- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea and all things in them, I heard saying, To Him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing and the honor and the glory and the might forever and ever.
- Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.
- Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

I. Glory is an attribute of God; glory is the expression of God, God expressed in splendor—Exo. 24:16; Acts 7:55.

- Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
- Acts 7:55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

II. The glory of God filled the tabernacle and the temple—Exo. 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11:

- Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
- Exo 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud settled on it and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
- 1 Kings 8:10 And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, the cloud filled the house of Jehovah;
- 1 Kings 8:11 And the priests were not able to stand and minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah.

- A. “The cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle”—
Exo. 40:34:

1. The day that the tabernacle was raised up, that the cloud descended and covered it, and that the glory of God entered and filled it was a great day—vv. 2, 34-35:

Exo 40:2 On the first day of the first month you shall raise up the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting.

Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.

Exo 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud settled on it and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.

- a. Those who gathered around the Tent of Meeting could see the cloud, whereas the high priest who eventually entered into the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle could see the inward glory of the tabernacle—Lev. 16:15; Heb. 9:7.
 - Lev 16:15** Then he shall slaughter the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil, and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it upon the expiation cover and before the expiation cover.
 - Heb 9:7** But into the second, only the high priest enters, once a year and not without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of ignorance of the people,
 - b. This indicates that in our experience of the church life we need to advance by entering into the tabernacle—Christ as the embodiment of God—to enjoy the bread at the table and intercede at the incense altar so that we may experience the glory in God’s dwelling place—Exo. 40:34-35; John 1:14.
 - Exo 40:34** Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
 - Exo 40:35** And Moses was not able to enter the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud settled on it and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
 - John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
2. The tabernacle covered by the cloud and filled with glory was a great blessing to the children of Israel, but today we have the reality of what they had only in figure—14:2-3, 6, 10-11, 16-18, 20, 26; Eph. 2:18-22; 3:16-21.
- John 14:2** In My Father's house are many abodes; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.
 - John 14:3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will receive you to Myself, so that where I am you also may be.
 - John 14:6** Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.
 - John 14:10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.
 - John 14:11** Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; but if not, believe because of the works themselves.
 - John 14:16** And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,
 - John 14:17** Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.
 - John 14:18** I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.
 - John 14:20** In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.
 - John 14:26** But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and remind you of all the things which I have said to you.
 - Eph 2:18** For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.
 - Eph 2:19** So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,
 - Eph 2:20** Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone;
 - Eph 2:21** In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;
 - Eph 2:22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
 - Eph 3:16** That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
 - Eph 3:17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
- Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.
- Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,
- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- B. “The glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah”—1 Kings 8:11:
1. The temple, the corporate expression and habitation of God on earth, was filled with the glory of God—vv. 10-11.

1 Kings 8:10 And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, the cloud filled the house of Jehovah;

1 Kings 8:11 And the priests were not able to stand and minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah.
 2. The glory of Jehovah filled the temple of Jehovah, bringing the God who is in the heavens to the earth and joining the earth to the heavens—v. 11.

1 Kings 8:11 And the priests were not able to stand and minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah.
 3. In Genesis 28 Jacob dreamed that “there was a ladder set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven” (v. 12), and he said that this is “none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven” (v. 17):

Gen 28 be omitted

Gen 28:12 And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Gen 28:17 And he was afraid and said, How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

 - a. There heaven came down to the earth, and the earth was joined to heaven by the ladder.
 - b. This ladder is a type of Christ who, as the Son of Man, with His humanity, is the ladder set up on the earth and leading to heaven, keeping heaven open to earth and joining earth to heaven for the house of God, Bethel—John 1:51; Gen. 28:19.

John 1:51 And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

Gen 28:19 And he called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz previously.
 - c. Today the heavenly God comes down to the earth, and the earth is joined to God by the Christ who dwells in us—Col. 1:27.

Col 1:27 To whom 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,
 - d. God not only came down from heaven, but His shekinah glory filled the temple—1 Kings 8:10-11.

1 Kings 8:10 And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, the cloud filled the house of Jehovah;

1 Kings 8:11 And the priests were not able to stand and minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah.

III. The Triune God is a God of glory—Acts 7:2, 55:

- Acts 7:2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,
- Acts 7:55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

A. God is the God of glory—vv. 2, 55:

Acts 7:2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,

Acts 7:55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

1. Whenever God is expressed, that is glory; the unseen God is God, and the seen God is glory—Exo. 13:21.

Exo 13:21 And Jehovah went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them on the way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might go by day and by night.

2. The God of glory appeared to Abraham, called him, and separated him from the world unto God; he was attracted and captured by that glory—Acts 7:2.

Acts 7:2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,

B. In Ephesians 1:17 Paul uses the term *the Father of glory*:

Eph 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,

1. The Father of glory is God expressed through His many sons—Heb. 2:10.

Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

2. The title *Father* implies regeneration, and the word *glory* implies expression; therefore, the title *Father of glory* implies regeneration and expression.

C. Christ the Son and God the Father are the same in glory—John 17:5:

John 17:5 And now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

1. Christ the Son is the effulgence of God's glory; the Son is the shining, the brightness, of the Father's glory—Heb. 1:3a.

Heb 1:3a Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, ...

2. Christ is the King of glory, Jehovah of hosts (that is, of armies), the consummated Triune God embodied in the victorious and coming Christ—Psa. 24:7-10; Luke 21:27; Matt. 25:31.

Psa 24:7 Lift up your heads, O gates; / And be lifted up, O long enduring doors; / And the King of glory will come in.

Psa 24:8 Who is the King of glory? / Jehovah strong and mighty! / Jehovah mighty in battle!

Psa 24:9 Lift up your heads, O gates; / And lift up, O long enduring doors; / And the King of glory will come in.

Psa 24:10 Who is this King of glory? / Jehovah of hosts

Luke 21:27 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Matt 25:31 But when the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the angels with Him, at that time He will sit on the throne of His glory.

3. Christ is the Lord of glory—1 Cor. 2:7-8:

1 Cor 2:7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,

1 Cor 2:8 Which none of the rulers of this age have known; for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;

- a. Christ is our life today and our glory in the future—Col. 3:4; 1:27.

Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

Col 1:27 To whom 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,

- b. To this glory God has called us, and into it He will bring us—1 Pet. 5:10; Heb. 2:10.
 - 1 Pet 5:10 But the God of all grace, He who has called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.
 - Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
- D. First Peter 4:14 speaks of “the Spirit of glory and of God”:
- 1 Pet 4:14 If you are reproached in the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.
1. The Spirit of glory is the Spirit of God.
 2. The Spirit of glory is the One through whom Christ was glorified in His resurrection—Rom. 1:4.
 - Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
 3. This very Spirit of glory rests upon the suffering believers in their persecution, for the glorifying of the resurrected and exalted Christ, who is now in glory—1 Pet. 4:13-14.
 - 1 Pet 4:13 But inasmuch as you share in the sufferings of Christ, rejoice, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice exultingly.
 - 1 Pet 4:14 If you are reproached in the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

IV. The glory of God is intrinsically related to the economy of God—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 1:10:

- 1 Tim 1:4 Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.
 - Eph 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;
- A. God's eternal goal is to bring His many sons into glory for the eternal corporate expression—the New Jerusalem—Heb. 2:10; 1 Cor. 2:7; Eph. 1:5-6, 12, 14; Rev. 21:7, 9-11.
- Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
 - 1 Cor 2:7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,
 - Eph 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
 - Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;
 - Eph 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ,
 - Eph 1:14 Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.
 - Rev 21:7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be God to him, and he will be a son to Me.
 - Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.
 - Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
 - Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.
- B. God has predestinated us to obtain His glory so that we may express Him; thus, the goal of God's predestination is our glorification—1 Cor. 2:7.
- 1 Cor 2:7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom which has been hidden, which God predestined before the ages for our glory,

- C. God created us in His image as vessels unto honor, prepared unto glory; we were predestinated in His sovereignty to be His vessels of honor to express what He is in glory—Gen. 1:26; Rom. 9:21, 23.
 - Gen 1:26** And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
 - Rom 9:21** Or does not the potter have authority over the clay to make out of the same lump one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?
 - Rom 9:23** In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory,
- D. Christ's redemption has fulfilled the requirement of God's glory—3:23-25; Heb. 9:5; cf. Gen. 3:24.
 - Rom 3:23** For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
 - Rom 3:24** Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;
 - Rom 3:25** Whom God set forth as a propitiation place through faith in His blood, for the demonstrating of His righteousness, in that in His forbearance God passed over the sins that had previously occurred,
 - Heb 9:5** And above it cherubim of glory overshadowing the expiation cover, concerning which it is not now the time to speak in detail.
 - Gen 3:24** So He drove the man out, and at the east of the garden of Eden He placed the cherubim and a flaming sword which turned in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.
- E. Through the gospel of the glory of God, God has called us by and into His eternal glory—2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Tim. 1:11; 1 Thes. 2:12; 1 Pet. 5:10; 2 Pet. 1:3.
 - 2 Cor 4:4** In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.
 - 1 Tim 1:11** According to the gospel of the glory of the blessed God, with which I was entrusted.
 - 1 Thes 2:12** So that you might walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.
 - 1 Pet 5:10** But the God of all grace, He who has called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.
 - 2 Pet 1:3** Seeing that His divine power has granted to us all things which relate to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who has called us by His own glory and virtue,
- F. The all-inclusive Christ dwells in us as the hope of glory—Col. 1:27; 3:4, 11.
 - Col 1:27** To whom 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,
 - Col 3:4** When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
 - Col 3:11** Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.
- G. As we behold and reflect the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed into the Lord's image from glory to glory—2 Cor. 3:18.
 - 2 Cor 3:18** But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
- H. God the Father is moving within us as the God of all grace so that we may participate in His eternal glory and even become the glory of God—1 Pet. 5:10.
 - 1 Pet 5:10** But the God of all grace, He who has called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.
- I. The glory of God in the economy of God involves the high peak of the divine revelation—God becoming man so that man may become God in life, nature, and function but not in the Godhead—John 1:14; Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; Col. 3:4; Heb. 2:10; Rev. 21:10-11.
 - John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

- Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
- Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
- Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

V. In John 17:22 the Lord Jesus prayed, “The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one”:

- A. After praying for the stages of oneness in the Father’s name by the eternal life (vv. 6-13) and of oneness through sanctification by the holy word (vv. 14-21), the Lord prayed for the third stage concerning the believers’ oneness being in the divine glory for the corporate expression of the Triune God (vv. 22-24).

- John 17:6 I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world. They were Yours, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.
- John 17:7 Now they have come to know that all that You have given Me is from You,
- John 17:8 For the words which You gave Me I have given to them, and they received them and knew truly that I came forth from You, and they have believed that You sent Me.
- John 17:9 I ask concerning them; I do not ask concerning the world, but concerning those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours;
- John 17:10 And all that is Mine is Yours, and Yours Mine; and I have been glorified in them.
- John 17:11 And I am no longer in the world; yet they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given to Me, that they may be one even as We are.
- John 17:12 When I was with them, I kept them in Your name, which You have given to Me, and I guarded them; and not one of them perished, except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.
- John 17:13 But now I am coming to You, and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy made full in themselves.
- John 17:14 I have given them Your word, and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world even as I am not of the world.
- John 17:15 I do not ask that You would take them out of the world, but that You would keep them out of the hands of the evil one.
- John 17:16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
- John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
- John 17:18 As you have sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.
- John 17:19 And for their sake I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.
- John 17:20 And I do not ask concerning these only, but concerning those also who believe into Me through their word,
- John 17:21 That they all may be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent Me.
- John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;
- John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that You have sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.
- John 17:24 Father, concerning that which You have given Me, I desire that they also may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

- B. Since the glory which the Father has given to the Son has been given to us by the Son,

genuine oneness is in the divine glory—v. 22:

John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

1. Glory is the sonship given to the Son by the Father with the Father's divine life and nature to express the Father in His fullness—vv. 1, 5, 22.

John 17:1 These things Jesus spoke, and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You;

John 17:5 And now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

2. There are four aspects of glory: sonship, the Father's life, the Father's divine nature, and the expression of the Father in His fullness; these four things equal the glory that we have in the Son and that has been given to us by the Son—Eph. 1:5; 4:18; 1 John 5:12; 2 Pet. 1:4; Rev. 21:9-11.

Eph 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph 4:18 Being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

2 Pet 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

- C. In the third stage of oneness, the believers, their self having been fully denied, enjoy the glory of the Father as the factor of their perfected oneness and thus express God in a corporate, built-up way—John 17:22:

John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

1. It is only in the third stage of oneness that we will be absolutely perfected into oneness to manifest and glorify the Lord.

2. We will have the life of God, the nature of God, and even God Himself for the purpose of becoming the manifestation and expression of God—v. 22.

John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

VI. In Ephesians 3:21 Paul declares, “To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen”:

- A. We are being strengthened into our inner man according to the riches of God's glory; this implies that the glory of God can be wrought into the saints—v. 16; 2 Cor. 3:18.

Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

- B. In Ephesians 3:21 *to Him be the glory* implies that the glory of God, which has been wrought into the saints, returns to God.

Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever

and ever. Amen.

- C. This glory comes to us with God and, after being worked into us, will return to God with us; this is the way in which God is glorified in the church—vv. 16-21.

- Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.
Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,
Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

- D. By means of this two-way traffic the church, as the first-fruits in the universe (James 1:18), takes the lead to give glory to God:

- James 1:18 He brought us forth by the word of truth, purposing that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

1. God's glory is wrought into the church, and He is expressed in the church—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22; 3:16-17, 19b.

- Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
Eph 2:21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;
Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.
Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
Eph 3:19b ... that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

2. To God is the glory in the church; that is, God is glorified in the church—v. 21.

- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

3. God will be glorified not only in this age, the age of the church, but also in the coming age, the age of the kingdom, and in the age of the ages, which is eternity—Matt. 6:13, 29; Rom. 16:27; Rev. 5:13; 21:10-11.

- Matt 6:13 And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
Matt 6:29 But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed like one of these.
Rom 16:27 To the only wise God through Jesus Christ, to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea and all things in them, I heard saying, To Him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing and the honor and the glory and the might forever and ever.
Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

4. For God to be glorified in all the ages, from the present age through eternity, He must be glorified in the church and in Christ—Eph. 3:21.

- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

VII. An outstanding feature of the New Jerusalem is that it has the glory of God, His expression—Rev. 21:11, 23:

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

- A. The New Jerusalem, as the corporate expression of God in eternity, bears the appearance of God, expressing God's image in His glory—vv. 10-11; 4:3.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

Rev 4:3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance, and there was a rainbow around the throne like an emerald in appearance.

- B. The entire city of New Jerusalem bears the glory of God, which is God Himself shining out through the city—21:11a:

Rev 21:11a Having the glory of God. ...

1. The glory of God is the content of the New Jerusalem, for the city is completely filled with His glory; this indicates that the New Jerusalem is a vessel to contain God and express Him.

2. The glory of God is actually God Himself being manifested; thus, for the holy city to be full of God's glory means that God is manifested in this city.

- C. The glory of God, God expressed, illuminates the New Jerusalem, shining through the jasper wall—vv. 23, 18a:

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev 21:18a And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, ...

1. The light of the New Jerusalem is like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal—v. 11b.

Rev 21:11b Having the glory of God. ...

2. The glory of God shines in Christ the Lamb as the lamp through the wall of the holy city—vv. 23, 18a.

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev 21:18a And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, ...

- D. God is the New Jerusalem, and to glorify God is to take Him as the New Jerusalem and give all the glory to Him—v. 22; Rom. 15:5-7:

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

Rom 15:5 Now the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind toward one another according to Christ Jesus,

Rom 15:6 That with one accord you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom 15:7 Therefore receive one another, as Christ also received you to the glory of God.

1. To glorify God is to participate in the New Jerusalem—Rev. 3:12; 21:11.

Rev 3:12 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

2. It is only when we express God in the New Jerusalem that He is truly glorified in the universe—Rom. 16:27; 1 Cor. 10:31.

Rom 16:27 To the only wise God through Jesus Christ, to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Cor 10:31 Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

- E. As the New Jerusalem, we will be to the praise of God's glory—Eph. 1:12:
Eph 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ,
1. In eternity all the sons of God will be fully saturated with God and will express God—Heb. 2:10.
Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
 2. God will be expressed through His glorified sons, and this expressed God is glory—Rev. 21:7.
Rev 21:7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be God to him, and he will be a son to Me.
 3. All the angels and positive things in the universe will praise the expressed God; thus, we, the glorified sons of God, will be to the praise of His glory—Eph. 1:12.
Eph 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ,