

The Believer's Glorification with Christ:

Romans 8v16-18, 28-30; 2nd Tim 2v10; 1st Peter 5v10:

God's purpose is to eternally glorify believers, based upon our position in Christ, in association with the glorification of His own Son.

The Nature of Glory:

Glory is the idea of displayed excellence.

The glory of man is temporal; it withers & fades away (1st Peter 1v24), in contrast to eternal divine glory, the revelation of the intrinsic divine majesty & excellence of God.

Divine glory has been displayed:

- by the full display of divine attributes (see Exodus 33v18-19, 34v5-7).
- by divine handywork, e.g. creation (see Psalm 19v1), "**the glory of the uncorruptible God**" (Rom 1v23), His *displayed creatorial excellence*.
- by the Lord Jesus Christ in His Person; John 1v14 "**And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth**", His *displayed personal excellence & displayed moral excellence*.
- by the Lord Jesus Christ in His work; John 2v11 "**This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory**", His *displayed divine excellence* (see also John 21v25).

God's Purpose to Glorify His Son:

God's desire was for a man to be displayed as head over His creation, and given a place of dominion, glory & honour; seen in Adam in innocence in Genesis 2, displayed in glory over the creation of God.

Psalm 8v4-5; "**For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet**". That glory was forfeited by Adam as a result of the entrance of sin.

As a result of the fall, "**all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**" (Rom 3v23).

What was lost in Adam is all recovered in the Lord Jesus, the 2nd Man, the last Adam (Heb 2v8-9).

God "**raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory**" (1st Peter 1v21). As a risen Man, the Lord Jesus has been glorified by the Father; He has had resurrection glory & heavenly glory & eternal glory heaped upon Him (see John 17v1,5).

God will bring in His Son back into this world, to be established in His millennial glory, reigning over the whole world; "**When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory**" (Matt 25v31). Zechariah 6v13 "**He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne**", i.e. the royal & priestly glory that He will display as the King Priest in the millennium.

His millennial glory was previewed upon the mount of transfiguration (see 2nd Peter 1v17).

The Certainty of the Believer's Glorification with Christ:

The Lord's desire is to share all His revealed glory with His own; John 17v22 **"And the glory which thou gavest Me, I have given them"**, v24 **"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me"**.

The Church will share millennial glory with the Lord Jesus (see Eph 1v10-11).

Col 3v4, **"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory"**.
2nd Thess 1v10 **"When He shall come to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in all them that believe ... in that day"**; the saints will be the vehicles by which His glory will be displayed.

Romans 8v28-30: Glorification is the ultimate objective of God's purpose for His own, based upon His one singular purpose to glorify His own Son. A golden chain with 5 divine links that cannot fail:

- i) **"For whom He did foreknow"**; divine foreknowledge of individual persons in eternity.
- ii) **"He also did predestinate"**; those individual persons are predestinated to a position of sonship & conformity to the image of God's Son.
- iii) **"whom He did predestinate, them He also called"**; in time, the effectual call of God.
- iv) **"whom He called, them He also justified"**; those persons, having responded to the call of God, are acquitted of guilt & declared righteous, justified.
- v) **"whom He justified, them He also glorified"**; **"glorified"** is in the same tense as all the others, i.e. those persons are already glorified in divine purpose.

Our eternal glorification is certain because of divine purpose & because of divine calling; **"the gifts and calling of God are without repentance"** (Rom 11v29), i.e. irrevocable.

Romans 9v23-24: **"And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom He hath called ..."**.

1st Cor 2v7 **"But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory"**.

2nd Thess 2v13-14 **"God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto He called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ"**.

Heb 2v10 **"For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory"**.

1st Peter 5v10: **"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you"**.

Eternal glorification is for the encouragement of believers who presently are suffering for a little while, in order that we might presently be established, settled in our faith (see also Rom 8v17-18, 2nd Cor 4v17).

Psalm 84v11 **"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly"**.