[UNDERSTANDING GOD]

"Understanding God's Glory"

Exodus 33:17-23

Introduction

In Exodus 33:17-23, we learn of Moses' desire to see God's glory. Glory is special recognition, exaltation, and honor for achievement that is beyond the norm. In relationship to God, glory refers to the awesomeness of His being. Psalm 29:3 states that He is the God of glory. Everything about God is glorious because He is glorious in everything.

As people, when we learn something, we practice it, excel in it, and achieve success and glory from it. God does not have to do all of that. He is perfection all on His own. The glory of God is the manifestation of His perfection. Since God is always perfect, He is always glorious like water is always wet or fire is always hot. The difference between human excellence and God's excellence is simple: every person we ascribe glory to will eventually lose it. Human glory is temporary; God's glory is forever. Isaiah 48:11 says ". . . My glory I will not give to another."

According to John 1:14, Jesus Christ is the revelation of God's glory in human form. In Matthew 17:1-8, Peter, James, and John can attest the more we know Christ, the more glory we experience. 2 Corinthians 4:4-9 informs us that life's problems are no match for Christians who have the glory of Christ inside of them operating with the power of God. We must be thankful for it all – especially everyday things we may take for granted.

Isaiah 43:7 says we were created for His glory . . . to be God's advertisement agency. In other words, we are to take every opportunity to bring God glory. God will only show us as much of His glory as we want to see. Like Moses, we must desire to draw closer to God and we will see things we have never seen before.

Getting Started

1. Reflect on some of the awesome things God has done in your life. What did you do to glorify Him once He did those things?

Let's Get Personal

- 1. Are you an advertisement for the glory of God? Can other people see how good He is by interacting with you?
- 2. How do you worship Him when you are not at church?

Take the Next Step

- 1. How has this series expanded your view of God?
- 2. What steps will you take to reflect God's glory.

Renew Your Mind

Ascribe to the LORD, O sons of the mighty, Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in holy array.

Psalm 29:1-2