

MOVING FROM ONE LEVEL OF GLORY TO ANOTHER

1 CORINTHIANS 15:41

There is a glory and beauty of the sun, another glory of the moon, and yet another [distinctive] glory of the stars; and one star differs from another in glory and brilliance.

“THERE IS A GLORY AND BEAUTY OF THE SUN”

THE SUN – is by far the most important source of energy for life on earth. It currently fuses about 600 million tons of hydrogen into helium every single second, converting 4 million tons of matter into energy every second. This energy, can take between 10,000 and 170,000 years to escape from its core & is the source of the sun's light and heat. It is its own source of radiance, its light radiates from within itself. It needs no other source of energy or light, no other engine. It is alive, active & powerful.

“ANOTHER GLORY OF THE MOON”

THE MOON – its surface is actually dark, although compared to the night sky it appears very bright, with a reflectance just slightly higher than that of worn asphalt. The moon can only be seen as a result of the sun's light reflecting off of it. It does not produce any light of its own. No sun means no light. With every day break, the moon's light fades away.

EXODUS 34:30, 33-35

³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to approach him... ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴But whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take off the veil until he came out. When he came out and he told the Israelites what he had been commanded [by God], ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, how his skin shone [with a unique radiance]. So Moses put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with God.

THE STARS - for at least a portion of its life, a star shines due to thermonuclear fusion of hydrogen into helium in its core, releasing energy that traverses the star's interior and then radiates into outer space. It has a light and energy source within. Stars are like mini suns. Some are bright, some are dim, some burn bright with life and others die out and have their lights extinguished. Each star is different in brilliance and glory.

JESUS IS THE EXPRESSION OF THE GLORY OF GOD

HEBREWS 1:3 (AMP)

The Son is the radiance and only expression of the glory of [our awesome] God [reflecting God's Shekinah glory, the light-being, the brilliant light of the divine], and the exact representation and perfect imprint of His [father's] essence, and upholding and maintaining and propelling all things [the entire physical and spiritual universe] by His powerful word [carrying the universe along to its predetermined goal].

2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 (AMP)

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," is the one who has shone in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory and majesty of God [clearly revealed] in the face of Christ.

JESUS HIMSELF IS THE GLORY OF GOD.

GOD'S GLORY IS REVEALED IN JESUS.

JESUS IS THE RADIANCE AND THE ONLY EXPRESSION OF THE GLORY OF GOD.

JESUS IS NOT AN OPTIONAL EXTRA, HE IS THE WHOLE DEAL!!

IN THE SAME WAY THAT A RIVER CANNOT SAY TO THE SOURCE FROM WHICH IT STEMS, I DON'T NEED YOU... SO TOO, WE CANNOT SAY WE WANT TO GO FROM GLORY TO GLORY WITHOUT JESUS!!

THE DESTINY OF THE BELIEVER IS TO SHINE BRIGHTER & BRIGHTER

PROVERBS 4:18 (AMP)

But the path of the just (righteous) is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until [it reaches its full strength and glory in] the perfect day.

In **2 Corinthians 3:1-18**, Paul contrasts the effects of our salvation with what happened to Moses when he encountered God's glory on Sinai. When Moses came down from the mountain after the giving of the law, the glow on his face was so terrifying that he had to put a veil over his face (**Exodus 34:29-33**). Yet that was a relatively weak and diminishing glory (**2 Corinthians 3:7**). It was also a reflected glory.

In contrast, "the glory which shall be revealed in us" (**Romans 8:18**) is an ever-growing glory that is not reflected, but comes straight from within.

ROMANS 8:18 (AMP)

For I consider [from the standpoint of faith] that the sufferings of the present life are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us!

WE CAN'T EXPERIENCE THE GLORY OF JESUS AND NOT EXPERIENCE LASTING CHANGE

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17-18

¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty [emancipation from bondage, true freedom]. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled/open face, continually seeing/beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are progressively being transformed into his image from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, [who is] the Spirit.

The word “changed” is the greek word metamorphoo. It is a compound of the words meta and morphoo. The word meta carries the idea of an exchange, while the word morphoo is the greek word for a person’s outward form. Together, the compound word means to transfigure or transform one’s appearance. The word metamorphoo appears only four times in the new testament.

It is used in **Matthew 17:2** and **Mark 9:2** to describe the transfiguration of Jesus.

Paul also uses it in **Romans 12:3** to tell us that we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

And finally, Paul again uses the word metamorphoo here in 2 Corinthians 3:18.

ONE DAY WE WILL SEE HIM FACE TO FACE

1 CORINTHIANS 13:12 (AMP)

For now [in this time of imperfection] we see in a mirror dimly [a blurred reflection, a riddle, an enigma], but then [when the time of perfection comes we will see reality] face to face. Now i know in part [just in fragments], but then i will know fully, just as i have been fully known [by God].

ONE DAY WE WILL BE INSTANTLY TRANSFORMED INTO HIS COMPLETE LIKENESS.

1 JOHN 3:2

We know that when He comes and is revealed, we will [as his children] be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is [in all His glory]...

THEY HAD LITTLE BUT GOD, YET THEY CHANGED THEIR WORLD!

1 COR. 1:26-29

²⁶For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. ²⁷But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; ²⁸And the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹that no flesh should glory in His presence.

THE GLORY OF THE LATTER HOUSE

HAGGAI 2:6-9 (AMP)

⁶For thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Once more, in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the desirable and precious things of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory and splendour,' says the Lord of hosts. ⁸'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord of hosts. ⁹'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts, 'and in this place I shall give [the ultimate] peace and prosperity,' declares the Lord of hosts."

HAGGAI 2:3

Haggai asked the people, "Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? And how do ye see it now? Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?"

WHAT IS THE LATTER GLORY?

HAGGAI 2:9

'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts,' and in this place I will give peace,' declares the Lord of hosts."

EPHESIANS 2:19-22

¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple of the Lord, ²²and whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the spirit...

Paul writes about this in: **Colossians 1:25-27**... ²⁵Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, ²⁶that is the mystery of which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but now has been manifested to his saints, ²⁷in whom god willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory...

PAUL PRAYS IN EPHESIANS 3:14-19

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, ¹⁶that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power through his spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up in all the fullness of god