

# EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST

(1)

Message Ten

## Glory and Glorification as Revealed in the Gospel of John

RK Hymns: 948, 949

Scripture Reading: John 1:14; 2:11; 5:44; 8:54;  
12:23; 13:31-32; 17:1, 5, 22

- 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.
- John 2:11 This beginning of signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed into Him.
- John 5:44 How can you believe when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that is from the only God?
- John 8:54 Jesus answered, If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say that He is your God.
- John 12:23 And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
- John 13:31 Then when he went out, Jesus said, Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and God has been glorified in Him.
- John 13:32 If God has been glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and He will glorify Him immediately.
- 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;

### I. **Glory is an attribute of God; glory is the expression of God, God expressed in splendor—Exo. 40:34; Acts 7:55; 2 Pet. 1:3; Rev. 21:11.**

- Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
- 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;
- 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,
- Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

### II. **The glory of God is intrinsically related to the economy of God—Eph. 1:6, 10, 12, 14; 3:21; 5:27:**

- Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;
- 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;
- 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.
- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- Eph 5:27 That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.
- A. The Triune God is a God of glory—Acts 7:2; Eph. 1:17; 3:14, 16; 1 Cor. 2:8; 2 Cor. 4:6; 1 Pet. 4:14.
- 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,
- 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,  
 Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father,  
 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,  
 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;  
 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.  
 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.
- B. God's eternal goal is to bring His many sons into glory—Heb. 2:10; 1 Cor. 2:7; Eph. 1:5-6, 12, 14.  
 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.
- C. Man was created by God in His image in order that man may express Him in His glory—Gen. 1:26; Col. 1:15; 2 Cor. 4:4, 6.  
 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.  
 Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,  
 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.  
 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- D. To sin is to fall short of God's glory and thus to express sin and the sinful self and to love the glory of men more than the glory of God—Rom. 3:23; John 5:44; 7:18a; 12:43.  
 Rom 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,  
 John 5:44 How can you believe when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that is from the only God?  
 John 7:18a He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; ...  
 John 12:43 For they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God.
- E. Christ's redemption has fulfilled the requirements of God's glory—Rom. 3:24-25; Heb. 9:5; cf. Gen. 3:24.  
 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.
- F. Through the gospel of the glory of Christ, 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 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.
- G. 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.
- H. 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.
- I. The goal of God's organic salvation, and the last stage of this salvation, is glory—our glorification—Heb. 2:10; Rom. 8:17, 21, 30.
- 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.
- Rom 8:17 And if children, heirs also; on the one hand, heirs of God; on the other, joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him that we may also be glorified with Him.
- Rom 8:21 In hope that the creation itself will also be freed from the slavery of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
- Rom 8:30 And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also glorified.
- J. The building of God is the Triune God wrought into us so that we may become His glorious corporate expression—Eph. 2:21-22; 3:17a, 19b, 21; 4:16; 5:27; cf. Exo. 40:34; 1 Kings 8:10-11; Ezek. 43:4-5; Hag. 2:7, 9.
- 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 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
- Eph 3:19b ... that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.
- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
- Eph 5:27 That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.
- Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, 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.
- Ezek 43:4 And the glory of Jehovah came into the house through the gate which faced toward the east.
- Ezek 43:5 And the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner court, and just then the glory of Jehovah filled the house.
- Hag 2:7 And I will shake all the nations, and the Desire of all the nations will come; and I will fill this house with glory, says Jehovah of hosts.
- Hag 2:9 The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former, says Jehovah of hosts; and in this place I will give peace, declares Jehovah of hosts.
- K. Since the kingdom of God and the glory of God are inseparable, the glory of God will be manifested in the coming kingdom—Matt. 6:13; 16:27; 26:29; 1 Thes. 2:12; Rev. 5:13.
- 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 16:27 For the Son of Man is to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will repay each man according to his doings.
- Matt 26:29 But I say to you, I shall by no means drink of this product of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of My Father.
- 1 Thes 2:12 So that you might walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.
- 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.

L. An outstanding feature of the New Jerusalem is that it has the glory of God, His expression; the entire city, a corporate person, of the New Jerusalem will bear the glory of God, which is God Himself shining out through the city, His wife—19:7-9; 21:2, 10-11.

- Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.
- Rev 19:8 And it was given to her that she should be clothed in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the saints.
- Rev 19:9 And he said to me, Write, Blessed are they who are called to the marriage dinner of the Lamb. And he said to me, These are the true words of God.
- Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 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.

M. 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 expression but not in the Godhead—John 1:14; 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.
- 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.

N. The goal of God's economy is that we all shine forth His glory—vv. 2, 23-24.

- Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 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 21:24 And the nations will walk by its light; and the kings of the earth bring their glory into it.

### **III. The glory of God is involved with Christ's incarnation, human living, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and coming again and His being the lamp in the New Jerusalem:**

A. In His life and work the Lord Jesus did not seek His own glory but the glory of the One who sent Him—John 7:18; 8:50, 54.

- John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.
- John 8:50 But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks glory for Me and judges.
- John 8:54 Jesus answered, If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say that He is your God.

B. Christ was glorified in His resurrection—Luke 24:26; John 7:39; 17:5; Acts 3:13; 1 Pet. 1:21.

- Luke 24:26 Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?
- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about

- to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
- John 17:5 And now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.
- Acts 3:13 The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him.
- 1 Pet 1:21 Who through Him believe into God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.
- C. Christ was glorified in His ascension; the Lord Jesus was a model of a person who “crossed the river” and entered into God’s glory, where He was crowned with glory and honor—Heb. 2:9-10; 6:19-20; 9:24.
- Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little inferior to the angels because of the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death on behalf of everything.
- 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.
- Heb 6:19 Which we have as an anchor of the soul, both secure and firm and which enters within the veil,
- Heb 6:20 Where the Forerunner, Jesus, has entered for us, having become forever a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedec.
- Heb 9:24 For Christ did not enter into a holy place made by hands, a figure of the true, but into heaven itself, to appear now before the face of God for us;
- D. The Lord as the Son of Man will come in the glory of the Father—Matt. 16:27; Luke 21:27.
- Matt 16:27 For the Son of Man is to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will repay each man according to his doings.
- Luke 21:27 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
- E. In the New Jerusalem for eternity, Christ, the Lamb as the lamp, will shine with God as the light to illuminate the New Jerusalem with the glory of God, which glory is the expression of the divine light—Rev. 21:11, 23; 22:5.
- 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.
- Rev 22:5 And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.

#### **IV. In the Gospel of John we can see the glory and glorification of the Lord Jesus:**

- A. “We beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father” (1:14); this refers to Christ’s transfiguration on the mount (Matt. 17:1-2, 5).
- Matt 17:1 And after six days Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and brought them up to a high mountain privately.
- Matt 17:2 And He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as the light.
- Matt 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight. Hear Him!
- B. “Jesus...manifested His glory”; the Lord’s divinity was manifested—John 2:11.
- John 2:11 This beginning of signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed into Him.
- C. The Lord Jesus did “not receive glory from men,” and asked, “How can you believe when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that is from the only God?”—5:41, 44.
- D. “He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true”—7:18:
1. “I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks glory for Me and judges”—8:50.

2. “If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me”—v. 54.
  3. “They loved the glory of men more than the glory of God”—12:43.
- E. Jesus said, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified” (v. 23); for Jesus as the Son of Man to be glorified was for Him to be resurrected.
- F. In chapter 17 Jesus said, “Father,...glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You” (v. 1); “Now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was” (v. 5):
- John 17      be omitted.
1. This is the subject of the Lord’s prayer in John 17.  
John 17      be omitted.
  2. Before this prayer the Lord Jesus predicted that He would be glorified and that the Father would be glorified in Him—12:23; 13:31-32.  
John 12:23    And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.  
John 13:31    Then when he went out, Jesus said, Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and God has been glorified in Him.  
John 13:32    If God has been glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and He will glorify Him immediately.
  3. Christ would resurrect that He might uplift His humanity into the divine element and that His divine element might be expressed,with the result that His entire being, His divinity and His humanity, would be glorified; thus the Father would be glorified in the Son.
- G. The Lord Jesus prayed that we would enter into the highest stage of oneness—the oneness in the divine glory for the corporate expression of the Triune God: “The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one”—17:22:
1. This is the believers’ deepest oneness, the oneness in the divine glory for the corporate expression of God.
  2. In this aspect 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.

**V. As the embodiment of the Triune God, Christ the Son is the Father’s glorification—vv. 1, 5, 22-23:**

- 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;
- 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.
- A. Glorification means manifestation; to be glorified is to be manifested.
- B. The main point of the Lord’s message in John 14 through 16 is that the Son may be glorified so that the Father may be glorified in the Son:
- John 14~16    be omitted.
1. In His message the Lord spoke of glorification, and in His prayer He prayed for glorification—13:31-32; 14:13; 15:8; 17:1, 5.  
John 13:31    Then when he went out, Jesus said, Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and God has been glorified in Him.  
John 13:32    If God has been glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and He will glorify Him immediately.  
John 14:13    And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.  
John 15:8     In this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and so you will become My



- disciples.
- 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.
2. Christ was glorified by the Father with the divine glory in His resurrection—7:39:
- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
- a. *Glorified* stands for *resurrected*, for the Lord was glorified when He was resurrected; His resurrection brought Him into glory—Luke 24:26; 1 Cor. 15:43; Acts 3:13, 15.
- Luke 24:26 Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?
- 1 Cor 15:43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;
- Acts 3:13 The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him.
- Acts 3:15 And the Author of life you killed, whom God has raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.
- b. According to the New Testament thought, resurrection is a release in life, and this release in life is a matter of glorification; *glorification* is therefore a synonym of *resurrection*.
- C. Today it is by the church that the Son will be glorified so that the Father might be glorified in and through the Son—John 17:22; Eph. 3:21:
- 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.
1. Glory is the expression of the divine life and the divine nature; the more we live by the divine life and the divine nature, the more divine glory there will be in the church—John 17:22; Eph. 3:21.
- 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.
2. The Father is glorified through the organic union of Christ's believers with the Father in the Son in a wonderful coinhering oneness—John 17:23:
- 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.
- a. When we are one, Christ is glorified, and the Father also is glorified.
- b. The oneness in John 17 is for the Father's glorification in the Son; this oneness is actually the divine glorification.
- John 17 be omitted.
3. In the divine glorification the Triune God is glorified in humanity, and humanity is glorified in divinity—Rev. 21:10-11.
- 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.