



*The Glory ...
The Presence ...
of God!*

We Can Experience His Wondrous Glory

By A.L. and Joyce Gill

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The Glory...
The Presence...
of God

STUDY NOTES BY DR. A.L. AND JOYCE GILL

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Lesson 1

Come Into the Glory

In recent years, we have experienced many moves of the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit has been restoring truth to the Church in recent times in greater and greater measure. There have been seasons of refreshing and seasons of revival. Many, no longer satisfied with “church as usual,” have been coming into a fresh revelation and relationship with the person of Jesus Christ. During these recent moves, many have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, been filled with the power from on high, and have started to operate in all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Many have learned how to hear the voice of God and have begun to prophesy. In these moves of God, many have begun to experience healing and other supernatural miracles in their daily lives and ministries.

However, we believe there is always more. We believe that if any word can best describe the move of God that we are coming into today, is the word “glory.” The purpose of this study is that each one of us will come to a fuller and fuller knowledge and understanding of the glory of God. That we will all discover the overwhelming, life-changing joy of living in the glory realm. And as God’s glory arises upon us, many others will discover and experience with us the awesome presence of God as He continues to manifest Himself as The God of Glory.

Prophecies of Glory

➤ *By Haggai*

The prophet Haggai saw the restoration of God's glory. He said it would be greater than the former.

Haggai 2:1b,3,7,9 ... the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying ... 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing? ... "I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.

"The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

➤ *By Isaiah*

The prophet Isaiah heard the angels exclaiming to one another that the earth was already full of the glory of the Lord.

Isaiah 6:1-3 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

➤ *By Habakkuk*

The prophet Habakkuk prophesied of the coming of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord. God's glory is already here. It is the knowledge and understanding of that glory that is to come.

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

WHAT IS THE GLORY?

God is a God of glory. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of glory, and Jesus, the King of Glory, was the manifestation of that glory. So it's important to know what this glory is; how we can define it.

Presence of God

The glory is the manifested presence of God. And this glory is shown throughout the Bible, this glory is manifested in many different ways.

The Hebrew and Greek definitions for glory are similar. The glory is a splendor, a brightness, or shining light – Referring to effulgence (the outshining from a luminous source).

Shekinah

The Hebrew word, *Shekinah*, means "the bright cloud of God's presence."

➤ *Like a consuming Fire*

Exodus 24:15 -17 Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. Now the glory of the LORD rested 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. The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

➤ *Cloud by Day – Fire by Night*

Exodus 40:34-38 Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. When the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up,

then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

Doxa

The Greek word, *doxa*, means “glory.” *Doxa* is a most glorious condition, an exalted state, the perfect state of blessedness promised to believers in Christ. It is the perfect Excellency of Christ and His Kingly majesty.

The Word says that we are now on a journey from glory to glory, or from *doxa* to *doxa*.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Kabod

The word most frequently used for glory in the Old Testament was the Hebrew word, *kabod*, which means “weight,” or “to be heavy,” referring to the considerable superiority, dignity, splendor, magnificence, greatness, excellency that renders God to be worthy of our praise and worship.

➤ *Not Able to Enter*

2 Chronicles 7:1,2 Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the Lord's house.

➤ *Stopped the Ministry*

2 Chronicles 5:13,14 indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

➤ *Weight of Glory*

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

➤ *Power to Lift*

The prophet Ezekiel said that he was actually lifted up and brought into the inner court. The Spirit can lift us up from

the natural realm into the glory realm, but this is also from one “natural” place into another “natural” place.

Ezekiel 43:5 The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

➤ *Could Not Stand*

When they brought the Ark of the Covenant (the presence of God into the Temple) the priest could not stand to minister because of the *kabod*, glory that had filled the temple.

➤ *Causes Trembling*

Daniel wrote,

Daniel 10:10 Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.

➤ *Causes Falling*

The prophet Ezekiel wrote,

Ezekiel 44:4 ...behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD; and I fell on my face.

Often, when the *kabod* glory is being manifested, we find it impossible to stand.

When the temple guards came to arrest Jesus, He asked, “Whom are you seeking?”

They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus said to them, “I am He,” and the Scripture says that they drew back and fell to the ground. (John 18:4 – 6)

➤ *Can Come as Cloud*

At the dedication of Solomon's Temple the glory came as a cloud.

1 Kings 8:6 Then the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the temple, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim.

vs. 10,11 And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, So that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

➤ *Can Come as Fire*

At the end of Solomon's prayer of dedication the fire of God fell.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3 Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. And the priests could not

enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the Lord's house. When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever."

Two Aspects of Glory

➤ *Non-communicative Glory*

There are two aspects of God's glory – that which He retains for Himself (non-communicative glory) and that which He communicates to mankind (communicative glory).

Isaiah 42:8a I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another ...

That is why we must be careful to give Him the glory due His name.

Psalm 29:2 Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name...

Psalms 96:7,8 Give to the LORD, O kindreds of the peoples, Give to the LORD glory and strength. Give to the LORD the glory due His name;

Matthew 6:13b ... For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

➤ *Communicative Glory*

Communicative glory is the glory which He created mankind to experience and manifest on this earth.

Ichabod

Ichabod is the opposite of *kabod*. It means the glory has departed.

When the Children of Israel sinned and the Ark of the Covenant, representing the glory of God, was captured by the Philistines,

Eli's daughter-in-law named her child *Ichabod*, saying "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark has been captured (1 Samuel 4:21,22).

It's a shameful thing that *ichabod*, the glory has departed, is true in the lives of so many Christians and in so many churches today. We will never be all that we were created to be until the glory that we were created for has been restored.

POWER AND GLORY

According to Scripture, God's power and glory are manifested together.

Psalm 63:1,2 O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; ... So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.

Psalm 145:11 They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, And talk of Your power.

Matthew 6:13b ... For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Mark 13:26 "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

Jude 1:25 To God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

Revelation 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

Revelation 15:8a The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power ...

Revelation 19:1 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power to the Lord our God!

As we move into the glory realm, we can expect to operate in more power.

THE GOD OF GLORY

The Father

➤ *Great is His Glory*

David wrote of the greatness of God's glory.

Psalm 138:5b For great is the glory of the LORD.

➤ *Father of Glory*

The apostle Paul called Him, the Father of glory

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

➤ *The God of Glory*

In Acts, He is referred to as the God of glory.

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

The Holy Spirit

➤ *The Spirit of Glory*

The apostle Peter referred to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of glory.

1 Peter 4:14 ... for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you....

The Son

There are over fifteen passages that refer to Jesus and the glory.

➤ *The King of Glory*

David prophesied about Jesus as the King of glory.

Psalm 24:7 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.

➤ *The Hope of Glory*

The apostle Paul said that Jesus in us was the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27 To them 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.

➤ *The Lord of Glory*

The apostle James referred to Jesus as the Lord of glory.

James 2:1 My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality.

➤ *Glory Could Be Seen*

John 1:14 And the Word became 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.

➤ *Glory Manifested in Miracles*

The apostle John said that Jesus' glory was manifested in miracles.

John 2:11 This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

➤ *The Light and the Glory*

Jesus is both the light and the glory.

Revelations 21:23-26 And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.

➤ *Knowledge of Glory*

God made His light shine in our hearts to give us the knowledge of His glory.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

➤ *Brightness of Glory*

Jesus is the brightness of the Father's glory.

Hebrews 1:1-3 God, who at various times and in different ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

➤ *Transfiguration*

Jesus was transfigured in glory.

Luke 9:28-32 And it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening. Then behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him.

➤ *Resurrection*

Jesus was raised by the power of the Holy Spirit, and the apostle Paul referred to this as the glory of the Father.

Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

➤ *Jesus Coming in Glory*

The apostle Luke wrote that Jesus will come back in glory.

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

➤ *Glory Revealed in His Perfections*

God's glory is revealed in each of His perfections: wisdom, power, knowledge, mercy, judgment and love. God's glory denotes the honor, majesty and the regal splendor of the Lord.

This was seen by Daniel.

Daniel 7:9,10 "I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened."

Vs. 13,14 "I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

Angels Manifest God's Glory

The angels were created to manifest His glory.

Revelations 18:1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.

Luke 2:9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them.

CREATED FOR GLORY

Adam and Eve were created for God's glory. They were clothed in His glory and were to extol His glorious perfections on this earth.

When they sinned, they died spiritually, the glory departed. They were no longer clothed in glory; and they were ashamed and hid from God because they were naked.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

God did not leave mankind in this state. The apostle Paul tells us that in Christ all are made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

Bringing Sons to Glory

Jesus, through His death, is bringing many sons and daughters to glory. As our creator, He is restoring us to our created purpose.

Hebrews 2:9-10 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory ...

Everyone who is a believer was created to show forth the glory of God.

Isaiah 43:7 ...everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."

We are to be to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:11,12 in whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Earthen Vessels

God has chosen to reveal His glory to others through us, His earthen vessels.

Isaiah wrote about this:

Isaiah 60:1,2 Arise, shine; For your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you.

And the apostle Paul told us more about it.

2 Corinthians 4:6,7 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

Three Levels of Glory

We see three levels of glory.

The Glory – Where many are today experiencing His glory with great joy and wonderful manifestations.

Intensified Glory – Where we go sometimes today. This is a greater level of glory where we experience greater and marvelous manifestations of the glory realm.

The Greater Glory – This is the end-time glory where the knowledge of His glory will fill all the earth as the waters cover the sea. Where the glory of Jesus will be mirrored in us.

The apostle Paul wrote of this,

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Our desire should be that Jesus, in all the manifestations of His glory would be seen in us.

There will come a desire to experience a glory that not only blesses us, but a glory and a power that will draw all men to Him. That is the purpose for which we were created.

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. Write your own description of glory using at least three scriptures.

2. How are power and glory linked in scripture?

3. How is Jesus portrayed in connection with glory? Give three examples.

Lesson 2

Separation for Glory

Come Out to Come In

The apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians,

2 Corinthians 6:17a Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate," says the Lord.

As we desire to come into the glory of God, there will be a natural separation from many things that would hold us back.

The author of the book of Hebrews wrote,

Hebrews 12:1b ... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us.

The weights the writer of the book of Hebrews is referring to can be our actions, companions, and/or emotions.

NEW BEGINNING OF SIGNS

When God appeared to Moses in the burning bush, it was a new beginning of signs for the Children of Israel.

Exodus 3:2-3 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

This miracle was followed by the ten plagues that came on the people of Egypt. Then we read how God parted the Red Sea and delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt; how a cloud led them through the desert providing shade by day and fire for warmth at night. God provided them with water and food. Their whole journey was accompanied by miracles.

But when God was drawing Moses to Mount Sinai to give him the law, God said there would be special signs which were given so that the people could hear and believe.

God Speaks from Cloud

Exodus 19:9 And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." So Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.

**Thunderings – Lightings –
Thick Cloud – Sound of Trumpet –
Smoke – Fire – Quaking**

As the signs continued, there could be no doubt in the people's minds that God was on the mountain and that He was speaking to Moses. And God had told Moses this was all done so that they would believe.

Exodus 19:16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

Vs. 18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

The People's Response

Think back to all the children of Israel had seen. The plagues that had come on the Egyptians. The supernatural parting of the Red Sea. The supernatural provision of water, and now the thunderings, lightnings, thick clouds, smoke, the sound of the trumpet, and the quaking of the mountain. Even with all this proof that God existed, even with the continuous miracles He had performed on their behalf. The people chose to make a golden calf and fall down and worship it. How inconceivable!

Exodus 32:4 And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

Vs. 7 And the LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.

Vs. 10 "Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation."

Is there any wonder that God desired to destroy them? We can read this passage and point our fingers at them, and wonder how they could do this horrible thing. But let's take a closer look at what happened.

Moses was their leader. He was taking them on a new path they didn't understand to a new place they didn't know. The Children of Israel had been in Egypt for 400 hundred year. This covered many generations. Moses was leading them to worship a God they didn't know. Moses was called by God. He had a personal relationship with God, but they didn't.

They must have thought Moses was dead. He had walked into all this turmoil of the elements and he had been gone day after day, after day.

When they formed the golden calf, they had gone back to worshipping the gods the way they had seen all their lives in the nation of Egypt. The way their parents had seen. Even the way their grandparents had seen.

This doesn't make it less of a sin, it just makes what happened more understandable.

Is it possible many today are doing the same thing when they deny the power of the Holy Spirit? Do they just want to worship God in a way that is comfortable for them? Do they want to continue in the ways of their people rather than moving into the new moves of the Holy Spirit?

A CHOICE TO BE MADE

Moses Made a Decision

Moses gave up so much in his life. Even before he had a choice, he was taken from his family and put in a basket to float on the River Nile. He became an adopted grandson of the Pharaoh, and yet he gave up all this power and wealth. He established a comfortable existence in the desert and had a family there, but when God called him out from there, he obeyed.

Moses is a tremendous example of a leader, chosen and prepared by God. When God said He would consume the children of Israel and make from Moses' loins a new, great nation, Moses didn't give up. He interceded for his people.

Exodus 33:1,2a,3 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Depart and go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will give it.' And I will send My Angel before you ... for I will not go up in your midst, lest I consume you on the way for you are a stiff-necked people."

God said He would send an angel with them, and this was not just any angel for God referred to him as "My Angel." But Moses responded,

Exodus 33:15 "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here."

He desired the presence of God so much, that he refused to go on without Him.

➤ *Chose Presence of God*

Because of their sin, Moses had to move his tent outside the camp. Only by being separate from the people could the glory of God continue to be on him.

Exodus 33:7-11a Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting. And it came to pass that everyone who sought the LORD went out to the tabernacle of meeting which was outside the camp. So it was, whenever Moses went out to the tabernacle, that all the people rose, and each man stood at his tent door and watched Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle. And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door. So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

Exodus 33:17 Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name."

➤ *His Heart Cry*

But Moses was still not content. He said, "Show me your glory." Moses always wanted more of God.

Exodus 33:18 And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."

➤ *The Glory Came*

In God's presence, the glory came on Moses.

Exodus 34:29,30. Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him. So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.

Vs. 33-35 And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face. But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take the veil off until he came out; and he would come out and speak to the children of Israel whatever he had been commanded. And whenever the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone, then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with Him.

The life of Moses is a tremendous challenge to us today. Moses was a friend of God, but he desired more. Even when God said He would send His Angel to go with them, Moses said he had to have the very presence of God Himself. He was willing to separate himself from everything, and everyone that would separate him from God. There was no compromise in him.

Abraham's Decision

The biblical account of the life of Abraham began when God spoke to him.

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

God gave Abram a wonderful choice, but it all started when he chose to obey God and got out of the country he was in.

The Prophets of Old

We could study one prophet after another in the Old Testament and find how God required them to make sacrifices, how it was necessary to separate themselves, to know God intimately.

John the Baptist

We are not told how John separated himself from the people of Israel, but we know that even before his birth he was separated from the normal.

Luke 1:15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

In Matthew we read,

Matthew 3:1-4 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.' " And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

John separated himself from the people and went into the wilderness. He even separated himself in what he wore and what he ate.

One could ask, "Do you think John enjoyed being clothed in camel's hair and eating locust?"

No, we would reply, I don't think he did. But that was part of the price he paid to stay true to the calling of God on his life.

Jesus, The Son of God

Of course, there is no stronger example than Jesus Who left all the glories of heaven to come and live on this earth as a man. He separated Himself from all His rights and privileges as God, and came to this earth as a man.

Philippians 2:5 made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men.

Our Decision

Many decisions are not made just one time, but are continuous decisions which become a life-style. Jesus told us to,

Matthew 6:3 ... seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

The apostle Paul said,

1 Corinthians 10:31b whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

There is a separation that is required of us to do and be to fulfill our destiny – to be bearers of the glory to the world around us.

Joshua confronted the Israelites with the decision they had to make, and God requires all of us to make that same decision.

Joshua 24:15 ... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve ... But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Living a Holy Life

God's presence and glory is incompatible with sin. If we are to experience the presence and glory of God we have to separate and cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the flesh to live and walk in the holiness of God.

The apostle Paul wrote,

2 Corinthians 6:17,18, 7:1 Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

The apostle Peter put it this way,

1 Peter 1:13-16 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

THE JACOB GENERATION

God is searching for those who will truly worship Him. The apostle John wrote,

John 4:23,24 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Seeking God's Face

Our decision is to be part of the Glory Generation – the Jacob Generation – the generation of those who seek the Lord, seek His face.

Just as Moses always wanted to know more of God, we should seek Him.

Psalm 24:6 This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face.

David continued,

Psalms 27:8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

Vs. 4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

Psalms 26:8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells

Partakers of Holy Spirit

Hebrews 6:4b ...those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

Philemon 3:12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

Like Moses, we are not willing to settle for an angel, second best, for church as usual, but only for the awesome presence of God.

Living in the Spirit

Those who are in the middle of a new move of the Spirit are often persecuted by those who are part of an older move of the Spirit. This has always been true. It's easy to rest in an established revelation, and not go on to what God is saying today. This group started out living in the realm of the spirit, but now they are now living in the realm of the flesh.

Galatians 4:29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Being Transformed

In the midst of this persecution and affliction, God is working in our lives to bring us into even greater glory.

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

His glory transforms us.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

He has given us His glory.

John 17:22 "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one.

We are His glorious Church.

Ephesians 5:27 that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Letting His Glory Shine

His glory will be seen upon us. Many will be supernaturally drawn into the glory. There will be great joy and abundant wealth.

Isaiah 60:1-5 Arise, shine; For your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. "Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you."

The apostle Luke also referred to this light.

Luke 11:36 "If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light."

Desiring His Glory

➤ *As Moses Did*

Remember how Moses longed for the glory.

Exodus 33:18 And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."

➤ *As David Did*

David longed for the glory.

Psalms 26:8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells.

➤ *As Jesus Did*

Jesus longed for the glory.

John 17:1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,"

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

Jesus longs to give us His glory.

John 17:22 "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:"

John 17:24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me 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."

➤ *Receiving the Glory*

1 Chronicles 16:27 (KJV) "Glory and honor are in His presence; strength and gladness are in His place"

The Unity of the Spirit

Even as Jesus was facing being crucified as a sacrifice for all mankind, He prayed that God would glorify Him, that He might glorify God.

➤ *Father Glorified in Jesus*

John 17:1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,"

Vs. 4-5 "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

➤ *Jesus Glorified in Us*

Jesus said He would be glorified in us.

Vs. 9-10 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them."

➤ *Giving Us His Glory*

Vs. 20-22 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:"

We are to spend eternity beholding His glory.

Vs 24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me 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."

Thirsty for God and His Glory

How can we do less than be thirsty for Him? As much as we thirst, we will receive.

Psalms 63:1,2 O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.

Psalms 42:1,2 As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Pressing In

We must "press" into Him.

Philippians 3:12b ...I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

David wrote,

Psalms 63:8a My soul follows close behind You ...

Come Out to Come In

We began this lesson with these same words. We must come out and be separate to come into all God has for us. Before God can come into our midst in His intensive glory, we must separate ourselves from the mixture situations. The writer of the book of Hebrews likens this to a race. He said,

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

What ever that weight may be, it's not worth being between us and God. No relationship, no organization, no traditions, no ties with the past, are worth letting them come between us and God and the purpose He has for our lives.

Our decision is made. We can declare with the words of Paul in Philippians 3:13 and 14,

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What was Moses' decision? Was it a costly decision?

2. Give six characteristics of the Jacob generation.

Lesson 3

Entering into the Glory

The Tabernacle of Moses

The tabernacle of Moses gives us a revelation of the progression whereby we can enter into the very presence of God today.

The writer of the Book of Hebrews says that Moses' tabernacle was a "copy and shadow of the heavenly things." It was a visual demonstration that reveals the process whereby we can enter into the glory of God's awesome presence today.

Hebrews 8:5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

THE OUTER COURT

Entering by Gates

Psalm 100:4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

We are to begin by coming through the gates with expressions of our heartfelt thanksgiving to God for our so-great salvation and all that He has provided for us.

The gate, or way in, is through Jesus.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

We begin our journey into the glory of God's awesome presence by coming through the gate of salvation through the person of Jesus Christ. Many have chosen to live just inside the gates instead of going on and pressing into a closer relationship with the Lord. They are believers, but not yet disciples.

They have left Egypt but have not yet entered the Promise Land. Their relationship is from afar, not living close to God.

There was no covering in the outer court, all the surrounding sounds were heard. To continue to live here in the spiritual realm would mean that we have no protection from the "fiery darts" of the enemy coming over the wall.

To Be Conscious of Sin

Those who have chosen to dwell precariously close to the world are vulnerable to distractions, influences and temptations of the world. They tend to backslide, or fall away.

Altar of Burnt Offering

The outer court contained the Brazen altar and the brazen laver. Brass speaks of judgment upon sin.

The Brazen altar was a place of burnt offerings, peace offerings and sin offerings. Jesus took the judgment of our sin upon Himself.

Brazen Laver

The Brazen Laver was for a ceremonial cleansing, and is a type of our cleansing in the blood of Jesus.

When we, even as believers sin, God has made a provision whereby we will be forgiven and cleansed from all sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

This is important if we are to go on into the "Holy Place" because sin cannot come into the holiness of God's presence.

However, to remain in the outer court spiritually is to have a constant reminder of sin and judgment. God wants us to go beyond living as "outer court Christians." He wants us to enter into a deeper place of intimacy with Him.

Lot

Lot is an example of "Outer Court" Christians when he chose to live close to Sodom.

Genesis 13:12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent even as far as Sodom.

vs. 13 But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.

They are easily tempted and oppressed by the devil.

Their spiritual life is often stale, stagnant, weak and powerless. They often live defeated lives.

However, in the Outer Court, God had made provision for each one to enter into a closer and more intimate relationship and fellowship with God.

THE HOLY PLACE

During the Old Testament period, the priests entered into the Holy Place daily to minister to the Lord. As believer priests, we are to enter in to the Holy Place and minister unto the Lord.

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

The Holy Place was covered with the skins of innocent animals whose blood had been shed to provide this covering. We as believers today have a place of “covering” provided by the shed blood of Jesus “the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world.”

To Be Conscious of Holy Spirit

To be in the Holy Place was to be in a place of protection and a place where we are separated from the sounds of the world outside. It is a place where it is easier to hear the voice of God.

Golden Lampstand, Table of Showbread, Altar of Incense

In the Holy Place, there were three articles of furniture, each made according to exact pattern. Each of these provided a revelation of spiritual truth.

The Golden Lampstand was to be filled with fresh oil every day. This is a type of the daily filling of the oil of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Here, instead of “natural light” there was the illumination of the Holy Spirit. To be in the Holy Place was to be in a place of intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit.

HOLY OF HOLIES

Ark of the Covenant

The Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Holy of Holies, or “Most Holy Place,” representing the heavenly throne of God Himself.

To be in the Holy of Holies is to be in the throne-room of the Father. To be in the Holy of Holies is to experience the abundant life, the meaningful life, the quality life, the resurrected life, the Zoe life, and the glorious life.

To Be Conscious of God

The Holy of Holies is the place where we are totally conscious of God, of who He is. Here we operate in the realm of the Spirit, by our spiritual senses.

Hebrews 5:14,6:1 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

To be in the Holy of Holies is to be enveloped in the cloud of the overwhelming glory of God Himself. After the tabernacle was completed, the Ark of the Covenant was brought in.

Exodus 40:34-37 Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. When the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

To move into the Holy of Holies, the earthly picture of the Heavenly throne room, is to move into the realm of the intimacy of God's awesome presence. It is moving into the realm of the supernatural, the realm of the Spirit, the atmosphere of glory, the realm of the open heaven, the realm of angels, and into the realm of the miraculous.

The Way Into the Holy of Holies

Once a year on the Day of Atonement, the High Priest was to go into the Holy of Holies. This was an awesome privilege. To be in the Holy of Holies was to be in the throne-room of The Father, the awesome presence of God Himself. Sin could not enter the presence of God. It was therefore necessary that there was no unresolved sin in the life of the High Priest in order for him to come into the holiness of God's presence.

On that day he stood before the thick veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. He had just shed the blood of the innocent lamb, a picture of the shed blood of Jesus. He had the basin of blood, the hyssop, the incense and the coals from off the altar in his hands. He stood before the veil. It stretched from wall to wall and from floor to ceiling. Historians tell us it was many inches thick. Now it was time to go in. But there was no door. How was he to get in? The writer of the Book of Hebrews speaks regarding this obvious question:

Hebrews 9:6-9 Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services. But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance; the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. It was symbolic for the present time...

The "way in" was not revealed except to the High Priest as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. "It was symbolic for the present time..." It was symbolic of how we are to get "within the veil," into the Throne-Room of God's awesome presence today.

Ezekiel mentioned being translated into “the inner court.”

Ezekiel 43:5 The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

It was a supernatural work and manifestation of The Holy Spirit. Perhaps it was what Philip experienced after he had baptized the Ethiopian Eunuch in the Desert of Gaza. He suddenly found himself many miles away in the town of Azotus.

Acts 8:38 - 40 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus...

It appears that in like manner the High Priest was picked up by the Spirit and translated within the veil into the Holy of Holies.

The Holy of Holies, representing the Throne-Room of God, was a place of intense worship of the Father.

We Can Enter

John 4:23,24 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Even so, we as believer-priest are to worship the Father in spirit and truth. This place of intense worship is in the realm of the spirit. We have come through the “Courtyards of Praise” when we have been praising God for all He has done for us. When suddenly the Spirit of God “lifts us up” and brings us within the veil. It is here that we worship the Father in spirit and truth just for who He is.

Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

We are not only to enter this realm for an occasional visit, but to dwell in that place of God’s awesome glory.

GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE

The Golden Altar on Incense is a prophetic revelation of the move of God that will transition us into the last move of God – GLORY! According to the instructions that God gave to Moses, the Golden Altar of Incense was positioned in the Holy Place immediately in front of, outside the veil,

but near to the Ark of the Covenant. It speaks of worship and prayer.

Exodus 30:1,6-8 "You shall make an altar to burn incense on; you shall make it of acacia wood ... And you shall put it before the veil that is before the ark of the Testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the Testimony, where I will meet with you. Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations."

The altar of incense was a picture of the golden altar in the very throne of heaven.

Revelation 8:3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. And he was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

The Altar of Incense Was Moved

Hebrews reveals that the golden altar of incense is now inside the Holy of Holies. Intense worship and prayer had resulted in a total transition and translation into the very presence of God

Hebrews 9:2-4a For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, which had the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant overlaid

Through the arrangement of the articles found in the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, we find prophetic revelation of the end time moves of God.

The final move is revealed by the ark of the covenant in the Holy of Holies. It is a move of glory, power and holiness. Preceding this move, however, is another move that will translate us into the Holy of Holies.

The revelation of this move is found in the placement of the Golden Altar of Incense, (positioned in the Holy Place, just outside the veil, nearest to the Holy of Holies and closest to the Ark of the Covenant).

The Golden Altar of Incense transitions and translates us into the higher realm beyond the veil into the Holy of Holies.

It speaks of intercession and worship.

Revelation 5:8 ...the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

The harp and the smoke of the incense pictures intense prayer and worship.

Revelation 8:3,4 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. And he was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

Prophetic prayer and worship will transition and translate us into the glory realm into the Holy of Holies – the throne room of God's awesome presence. We are transported into the realm of the spirit as our prayers and worship arise as a sweet smelling sacrifice. We hear ourselves praying things we did not know to pray. In prophetic worship, the song of the Lord will come lifting us into higher realms of God's presence and glory.

Through this we have a revelation that the Golden Altar of Incense (our prayers and our worship) translates us into the higher realm of the Holy of Holies. This ministry that begins in the Holy Place, closest to the Ark of the Covenant, will translate us beyond the veil.

The spirit of grace and supplication will be poured out in the last days.

Zechariah 12:10a "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication."

Angels are actively involved in our prayers and worship and are preparing the way for the final move – the manifestation and unveiling of God's glory.

ENTERING THE GLORY

Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:1a Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven ...

Vs. 12 Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer..."

Prayer together with worship is the pathway to the glory. No prayer, no glory!

Luke 9:28,29 He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

Worship

2 Chronicles 5:12-14 ... and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets - indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they

lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

Worship translates us beyond the veil into the glory of God's presence.

Prophetic Prayer And Worship

We are transported into the realm of the spirit as our prayers and worship arise as a sweet smelling sacrifice to the Lord. We may hear ourselves praying things we did not know to pray. In prophetic worship, the song of the Lord will come lifting us into higher realms of God's presence and glory.

Soaking in His Presence

Our spirit is charged, empowered and energized as we spend time soaking in His presence. We must enter deep into His presence and linger long, soaking in the glory of His presence.

It is for this reason, the early Apostles said:

Acts 6:4 "We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

In these times of communing with God in our thanksgiving, praise, Bible reading, meditation and study, prayer, soul searching, repentance, confession, listening, receiving, intercession, and prolonged worship. God speaks to us through His Word. When the *Rhema* comes, take time to meditate upon it, pray over it, assimilate and appropriate it into our life and ministry.

IT'S PROGRESSIVE!

Our relationship with God, our walk as a believer, our time with Him is always progressive.

The Way – The Truth – The Life

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

➤ *The Way*

The Outer Court is The Way – Relationship with Jesus

Jesus is the only Way to the Father. Here, we have come into a relationship with Jesus

➤ *The Truth*

The Holy Place is The Truth – Relationship with the Holy Spirit

1 John 5:6b And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.

Psalm 51:6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

Here we have come into a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

➤ *The Life*

The Holy of Holies is The Life – Relationship with the Father

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus.

John 4:23, 24 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

To be in the Holy of Holies is to be in the presence and in an intimate relationship with The Father.

Sin Conscious – Holy Spirit Conscious – God Conscious

As new believers, we may be conscious of the sins of our past. There may be a desire to go back.

When we receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, we are still quite conscious of our selves, our needs, our desires, but we have added the dimension of having the power of God within us.

But there is a higher place, and that's in the very presence of God. Here we forget about ourselves and concentrate on Him.

Revelation of Son – Revelation of Spirit – Revelation of Father

As we walk with the Lord, there is a progressive revelation of God.

The Good – The Better – The Best

The Good is salvation. The better is receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the best is entering and living in the glory of His Presence.

We progress from a relationship with Jesus to a relationship with the Holy Spirit. We go from there to abiding in the glory of the Father's presence as we worship Him in Spirit and in truth.

The Body – The Soul – The Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

➤ *The Body*

The Body is the physical and world conscious part of our being. It's the knowledge of the natural senses, and is dominated by the flesh life.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; For you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

Galatians 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

vs. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

➤ *The Soul*

The Soul is the self-conscious part of our being (will, intellect and emotions). It is the self-conscious, living in a soul-dominated life. The soul is self centered and not capable of worship.

John 4:24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Romans 12:2a And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

➤ *The Spirit*

The part of our being that is God-conscious, insensitive to the realm of the Spirit. The Spirit-controlled life is full of grace, beauty, purpose and power.

Ephesians 3:16-19 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height-- To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Hebrews 6:1a Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection...

Matthew 5:48 "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Moving toward perfection (maturity and completeness) involves drawing closer to The Perfect One in the Holy of Holies (Throne room). He is perfect in His holiness, character, ways, conduct, love, knowledge, wisdom and power. In His presence we are conformed to His image.

There is an impartation of His life and character as we linger in His presence.

The Good Will of God – The Acceptable Will of God – The Perfect Will of God

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

➤ Good

Those who choose to live in the outer court area are in the permissive will of God. They live within the boundary of acceptance, but far from the center of His will. They know Him as Savior but not as Lord. They want the blessings of God but still crave the things of the world. They are trying to serve two masters.

➤ Acceptable

Acceptable will has greater fulfillment but is still settling for less than the perfect will of God. Here we are still falling short of His glory.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

➤ Perfect

The perfect will of God is being in the center of God's will, well pleasing unto God.

Luke 11:2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."

John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."

Psalm 143:10 Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

Initial Experience – Partial Experience – Fullness Experience

Ephesians 3:19 To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;.

Thirty-fold – Sixty-fold – Hundred-fold

We can come into new levels of productivity.

Matthew 13:23 "But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundred-fold, some sixty, some thirty."

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Psalm 1:3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

In Conclusion

We can go from ...

A Carnal Mixture – To the Soul and Spirit – To a Pure Spirit

From the ...

Natural Illumination –To The Illumination of the Spirit – To the Glory of God

From Being Within ...

Shouting Distance –To Talking Distance – To Whispering Distance

It's ...

Yesterday – Today – Forever

From the ...

Believer's Anointing – To the Priestly Anointing – To the Kingly Anointing

To being in His ...

Presence – To His Strong Presence – to the Glory

Today, whatever our walk is with the Lord, there is always more. Our relationship with Him is progressive. We can keep moving from glory, to glory, to glory.

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. In your own words, describe the Tabernacle of Moses and how it relates to praise and worship.

2. Give four progressions of three that related to the Tabernacle of Moses, but even more important relate to you. Explain how they relate to you.

Lesson 4

Breakthrough to Glory

THE VEIL OF DARKNESS

Many have failed to experience the manifestation of the glory of God because the enemy has placed a veil of darkness to blind their eyes in an attempt to prevent “the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ ... to shine on them.”

Sent by Satan

2 Corinthians. 4:3,4 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Lucifer’s original nature was to cover.

Ezekiel 28:14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones."

Before Lucifer’s rebellion it appears he was appointed by God to be right beside Him, covering His throne as was depicted by the cherubim on both sides of the mercy seat that was on top of the Ark of the Covenant. It was a covering of glory. In Lucifer’s fallen state, it is still his nature to cover. However, now it is his demented purpose to cover with a veil of spiritual darkness in his attempt to keep the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ from breaking through to those who are walking in darkness.

Gross Spiritual Darkness

Many today are experiencing gross spiritual darkness and it seems as though the heavens above are as bronze.

Isaiah 60:2a For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people...

Deuteronomy 28:23 And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron.

Many are crying out for a breakthrough of the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ to shine on them. They are crying out as Isaiah did.

Isaiah 62:1-2a For Zion’s sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness and all kings your glory.

Isaiah 64:1-3 Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at your presence - as fire burns brushwood, as fire causes water to boil - to make Your name known to Your adversaries, that the nations may tremble at Your presence! When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, the mountains shook at Your presence.

Promise of Breakthrough

God has promised us a breakthrough of His glory.

Isaiah 25:7 And He will destroy on this mountain the surface of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations.

Isaiah 60:1-5 Arise, shine; For your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

THE LORD OF THE BREAKTHROUGH

The question then is, “Should we sit back and wait for the breakthrough of God’s glory to come, or is there something that we as followers of Jesus should be doing in order to experience this breakthrough of God’s awesome glory?”

First of all, we must know that God is the Lord of the Breakthrough.

David’s Breakthrough

➤ *Received Third Anointing*

When David received his third and highest level of anointing, the enemy came searching for David. As a young man, David had been anointed by Samuel to one day be the king. Later he was anointed to be king over Judah. However in the following passage, he had just received his third and highest level of anointing. He was anointed to be king over all of Israel.

The enemy knows the power of the anointing upon God’s people to destroy every yoke of bondage.

Isaiah 10:27b (KJV) ...the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

➤ *The Enemy Came*

The enemy (the Philistines) all went up to search for David. They knew he had to be stopped.

2 Samuel 5:17-20 Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the stronghold. The Philistines also went and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. So David inquired of the LORD saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?"

➤ *Baal Perazim*

And the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand." So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

Baal Perazim means The Lord is the Lord of the Breakthrough!

God is still "The Lord of the Breakthrough." We know that He will do His part if we, in obedience, do our part.

Many today are standing in faith and obedience, believing God for a breakthrough in the salvations of their family members and friends. Many are believing God for a spiritual breakthrough over the forces of darkness that have controlled their region. Many others are needing a breakthrough in their relationships, their health and in their finances. It is therefore important that we know God as The Lord of the Breakthrough. If we do our part, He will manifest Himself as The Lord of the Breakthrough in whatever situation we are in.

Daniel's Breakthrough

➤ *Fasted for 21 Days*

Daniel prayed and fasted for a breakthrough for twenty-one days.

Daniel 10: 1-3 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

➤ *The Vision Came*

And then Daniel's breakthrough came.

vs. 4-6 Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

vs. 7-9 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

➤ *Breakthrough Came*

Daniel's breakthrough began on the first day of Daniel's fast "because of his words." However, there was a war going on in the spirit realm because of what Daniel was doing and saying here on earth. There was no change in the natural that Daniel could see during those twenty-one days. But, powerful things were happening in the spirit world.

vs. 10-13 Then, suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia."

The Archangel Michael and his angels were the ones that had cast Lucifer and his followers out of heaven when they rebelled against God. This included the prince of Persia. Because of what Daniel was doing and saying on earth, Michael showed up and Daniel experienced his "breakthrough."

Jehoshaphat's Breakthrough

➤ *Surrounded, Outnumbered*

Jehoshaphat the King and all the people of Judah found themselves surrounded by the armies of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir. It appeared that they were hopelessly outnumbered.

2 Chronicles 20:3,4 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. So Judah gathered together to ask help from the LORD; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

➤ *People Knew Ways of Lord*

Note: Prior to this, Jehoshaphat had taught the people the ways of the Lord and had brought them back to the Lord.

2 Chronicles 19:4 So Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem; and he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the mountains of Ephraim, and brought them back to the LORD God of their fathers.

When the enemy comes against us, it is important that we, like these in Judah, have been taught the Word and have been “brought back to the LORD God of our fathers.”

➤ *Position Yourselves*

They began to pray. They fasted and sought the LORD for a “breakthrough.”

2 Chronicles 20:12,13 "O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You." Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD.

The Lord spoke through Jahaziel the prophet:

Vs. 15b,17 "Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's ... You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!" Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you."

➤ *Bowed Before God and Worshipped*

Vs. 18,19 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high.

We are to believe the Lord and His prophets.

Vs. 20 And they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."

Jehoshaphat could consult with the people because he had taught them the Word of the Lord. He positioned those who should sing and praise out in front of the army.

Vs. 2 1 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the LORD, for His mercy endures forever."

➤ *Their Enemies Destroyed One Another*

All their enemies were ambushed by the angelic host.

Vs. 21,22 Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another. So when Judah came to a place overlooking the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and there were their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. No one had escaped.

➤ *An Example for Us*

Lucifer was described as "The anointed cherub that covered." The Scriptures referred to "The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes ... (Ezekiel 28:13) These were percussion and wind instruments. It also referred to "the sound of your stringed instruments" (Isaiah 14:11). Lucifer was created for music.

It appears that he and "his angels" who were cast out of heaven with him were the former worshippers in heaven. If there is anything they can't stand, it's the sound of praise and worship. It's as if they drop their swords and shields, clamp their hands over their ears and scream in horror. It drives them into mass confusion. In this confusion, they turned on one another. The enemy, while united in their hatred of God and each of us as the children of God, are also very territorial. In their confusion they had destroyed one another.

(Note: There is a full study of this subject in the Gill's manual, *Praise and Worship, Becoming Worshipers of God.*)

WORSHIP OPENS THE HEAVENS

At Bethel

Everywhere Abraham went, as a friend of God, he built altars and worshipped God. Many times right after he built an altar and worshiped God, we read that the angels, or God Himself, appeared and spoke to Abraham. One of those places was a place called Bethel. Many years later Abraham's grandson, Jacob went to Bethel.

Genesis 28:10,11 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all

night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

➤ *A Certain Place*

Notice the words, a certain place. Jacob didn't just happen to stop here. It was a certain place even if he did not know it. It appears that Jacob was in the exact spot where Abraham had built an altar and worshiped God. Perhaps those "stones" were part of the altar his grandfather had built.

➤ *Dream of Angel Activity*

Vs. 12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Jacob had a spiritual dream during which he saw that there was much angelic activity going on in that very place. The heavens were open in that place. The angels are ascending and descending to go and get our blessings for us. This place of "Open Heaven" was a place where God was speaking:

Verse 13-15 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

There was something different about this place where true worship had taken place. "How awesome is this place!"

➤ *A Gate of Heaven*

Verse 16,17 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." 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!"

Through Abraham's worship in this place many years before, the gates of heaven had been opened. It was a place of "Open Heaven," an awesome place where the King of glory was speaking. There had been a breakthrough of

glory in that place where Abraham had built an altar and worshiped God.

Open the Gates

We have an awesome promise from God given to us by David. If we will spend time worshipping God, the King of glory will come in.

Psalm 24:7 - 10 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates! And lift them up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.

Intense and prolonged worship in the spirit is a major key to experiencing the breakthrough of God's awesome glory.

➤ Dreams and Visions,

Many times we just walk into these places of open heaven where people have been worshipping God and suddenly experience the awesome glory of God's presence. In these places we often experience spiritual dreams as Jacob did or spiritual visions as Ezekiel did.

Ezekiel 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

➤ Hear God's Voice

In these times and places of "Open Heaven," our spiritual ears are opened and we often hear God's voice calling us to "Come up here..."

Revelation 4:1,2 After these things I looked, and behold a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.

➤ Spiritual Eyes and Ears Are Opened

As we ascend into the glory realm of the Spirit, our spiritual eyes are also opened and we not only hear the voice of God, but it is in these times that we "see" with our spiritual eyes that which God has prepared for us. And in that realm of the Spirit we see God Himself seated upon

His throne. Here, we have entered into a realm of the glory, a realm of intimacy before the very throne of God Himself.

This realm of glory is also a place of seeing, feeling or experiencing the presence of angels.

Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Let God Arise - Enemies Scattered

Psalm 68:1a Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered.

Psalm 149:6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand,

Isaiah 30:31,32 For through the voice of the LORD Assyria will be beaten down, who struck with a rod. And in every place where the staff of punishment passes, which the LORD lays on him, it will be with tambourines and harps; and in battles of brandishing He will fight with it.

Paul and Silas

➤ *Beaten and Put in Stocks*

Acts 16:19-24 But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe."

Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

➤ *Began to Pray and Sing*

The breakthrough came at midnight, the darkest hour of the night.

Acts 16:25,26 ...But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

Notice the multiplication – all the doors were opened – everyone’s chains were loosed. When we begin to give praise to God others are affected/

➤ *Many Believed*

Acts 16:27-34 And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

➤ *The Sacrifice of Praise*

The writer of the book of Hebrews referred to this as a sacrifice of praise. Their breakthrough came as a result of offering praise in the midst of their desperate situation.

Hebrews 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Open Heavens

We can open the heavens by worshipping God.

➤ *The Apostle John*

John reported seeing an open door in heaven.

Revelation 4:1,2 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.

John reported seeing heaven opened and Jesus sitting on the throne immediately after the angel instructed him to "worship God."

Revelation 19:10,11 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

➤ *The Prophet Ezekiel*

Ezekiel reported seeing the heavens opened.

Ezekiel 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

➤ *The Prophet Isaiah*

Isaiah 62:1-3 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD will name. You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

vs. 10 Go through, go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway! Take out the stones, lift up a banner for the peoples!

Satan's Strategy

In Heaven before sin entered, Lucifer was a praiser and worshipper of God. The angels who followed him in his rebellion were praisers and worshippers of God. They were before the very throne of God before they were cast out.

Then God created Adam and Eve, but Satan was able to corrupt them and all their descendants. Then Jesus became a sacrifice for every man, woman, and child. Now, through his shed blood, we are invited to come into the very throne room of God, but we can only do that through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Satan's desire is to destroy the body of Christ. His strategy has been to establish a counterfeit "church," a powerless organization – to keep us from knowing the power of the Holy Spirit – to keep us from knowing the power that is ours when entering into the presence of God through our praise and worship.

Breakthrough to Glory

Through intense praise and worship, we can experience an open door to heaven. We can hear God's voice saying "Come up here..." We can be translated "in the Spirit" to the very throne-room of God Himself.

Through Breakthrough Worship we have opened the heavens. The veil of darkness has been destroyed. We, like Jacob at Bethel, will experience that awesome place where a gate is standing open, where there is much angelic

activity, where God is standing above and speaking. We can experience the wondrous glory of God!

We can declare with David,

*This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him,
Who seek Your face. Selah
Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!
And the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O you gates!
And lift them up, you everlasting doors!
And the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah
Psalm 24:3-10*

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What is the veil of darkness?
2. How can it be removed?
3. Give three scriptural illustrations of the veil of darkness being removed.

Lesson 5

Manifestations of the Glory

Manifestations of the glory come when we move from our natural realm into the realm of the spirit.

Two Realms

➤ *The Natural*

There are two realms we need to consider. There is the natural realm that is all around us.

- ▶ In this realm we operate with our natural senses of sight, hearing, taste, touch/feel, and smell.
- ▶ This realm is temporal, meaning it is not eternal, but for a limited time.
- ▶ It is materialistic.
- ▶ In the natural realm we can praise God. We can study the Word. We can know about God.

➤ *The Spiritual*

There is also a spiritual realm. This realm is also all around us.

- ▶ But, we cannot operate in this realm with our natural senses. We must become attuned to our spiritual senses.
- ▶ This realm is eternal.
- ▶ There is no time or distance in the spirit realm.
- ▶ In this realm we can worship God. It's where the Word becomes alive and powerful. We can know God.

The apostle Paul wrote,

2 Corinthians 4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Two Kingdoms

There are two kingdoms in the spiritual realm. There is the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan.

The apostle Paul referred to these two kingdoms.

Colossians 1:12-14 Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

We are born into the kingdom of Satan, but with the new birth we come into the kingdom of God.

Three Heavens

1. There are three heavens mentioned in Scripture. The first is the earth's atmosphere, the sun, moon, and stars.
2. The second heaven is the spirit realm of both the angelic and demonic.
3. The third heaven is referred to one time in Scripture in 2 Corinthians 12:2, and this is the abode of God. In verse 4 Paul refers to it as Paradise. The throne room is in this realm.

2 Corinthians 12:2-4a I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago, whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows, such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man, whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows, how he was caught up into Paradise...

When we come into the glory or the presence of God, we are in the spirit realm. Even though we are living in the natural realm, we can be attuned to the realm of the spirit.

There are times when we enter the spirit realm and are actually in the heavenlies – in the throne room of God.

There are over 750 references to heaven in the Bible, but none of them go beyond the third heaven.

ENTERING INTO THE SPIRIT REALM

Receiving the Holy Spirit

If we are to experience the glory realm of the Spirit, we must first receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:16 John answered, saying to them all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Acts 2:1-4 Now when the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 19:2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

Vs. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

Living in the Spirit

It is God's plan and purpose for our lives that we live and walk in the realm of the Spirit every day of our lives.

Galatians 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Vs. 16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Receive Spirit of Revelation

To experience the true glory of God, we must enter into the realm of the Spirit. It begins as the Holy Spirit comes on us as a Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation. In the realm of the Spirit, we not only discover the glory of God, but we also discover that we are to glorify Him.

Ephesians 1:16-18 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

In Christ, as His inheritance, we have boldness to access the glory realm to bring glory to Him.

Hebrews 10:19a Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus ...

Praying in the Spirit

As we live and walk in the glory realm of the Spirit, we will also pray in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:14,15 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the result then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Our prayers in the Spirit are pleasing to God and as a sweet smelling incense are collected in golden bowls before the throne of God.

Revelation 5:8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Revelation 8:3,4 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. And he was given much incense, that he should

offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

Singing in the Spirit

As we enter the realm of the glory in the Spirit, we also begin to sing in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:15b I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

Revelation 14:3a And they sang as it were a new song before the throne...

Revelation 5:8,9 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

Worship in the Spirit

In this realm of glory in the Spirit, we discover that the Spirit has lifted us up in the very presence of God to worship Him in Spirit and in truth.

John 4:23,24 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Translated by the Spirit

Even as the Spirit "translated" Philip, He will lift us up and translate us into the glory realm of the Spirit.

Acts 8:39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing

The prophet Ezekiel was translated when God took him home.

MANIFESTATIONS OF GOD'S GLORY

First a Warning

Picture a group of children playing at the edge of the water. They are building sand castles and are laughing with joy at what they have created. And yet, as we watch them, we know that in a short time, all that they have created will be gone. Have we been like these children?

How easy it would be to ignore the whole ocean and play on the shore. God's glory is so immense it's hard to grasp even smaller parts of it.

As we pray and a child is healed, we see God's glory. As we stand in our God-given authority and turn away an approaching storm which has been sent to bring destruction, we see God's glory. As we stand in the jungle at the side of a thunderous waterfall, we see God's glory.

His Glory is Everywhere

His glory is everywhere. It is all around us. The prophet Isaiah saw much of the glory of the Lord, and he tells us,

Isaiah 6:2,3 Above it stood seraphim ... And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

The Purpose of Signs

Biblical Signs are manifestations of God's Glory.

Jesus was certified, or attested by God by the miracles, wonders and signs that He did. "Attested" means to certify in an official capacity.

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know"

Many believe and are amazed by seeing miracles and signs.

Acts 8:13 Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

God has chosen to bear witness by His signs, wonders and miracles.

Acts 2:19 I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath:

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

First Sign Done by Jesus

The first miracle of Jesus was the turning of water into wine, and the Bible calls it "the beginning of signs." A sign communicates or points to something.

John 2:7 - 11 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then that which is inferior; but you have kept the good wine until now." This beginning of

signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

This miracle of the transformation of the water to wine was that which transformed the natural into the supernatural. It is interesting that this sign of the transformation of the natural into the supernatural in John, chapter two, preceded and pointed to the miracle of the transformed life in John, chapter three where Jesus said: "You must be born again."

Glory Clouds

Many have experienced what appear to be "glory clouds" during times of intense worship. These manifestations are often seen in pictures taken with digital cameras during the times when many are sensing the awesome glory of God's presence.

Exodus 16:10 Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Exodus 24:15 Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain.

Exodus 40:34-38 Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. When the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

Manifestation of Fire

The glory of God is occasionally manifested as flames of fire. As with the glory clouds, there have been frequent occurrences of streaks or balls of fire that have shown up on pictures taken with digital cameras.

Leviticus 9:23, 24 And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people, and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

1 Kings 18:24 (Elijah) "Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God."

Vs 38,39 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"

2 Chronicles 7:1a Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven ...

Isaiah 4:4,5 When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning, then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a covering.

Thundering and Lightning

Exodus 19:16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

Revelations 4:5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Manifestation of Oil (Anointing)

Many have experienced the manifestation of oil flowing from their hands, feet or other parts of their skin. Oil was used for anointing.

Exodus 30:25 "And you shall make from these a holy anointing oil, an ointment compounded according to the art of the perfumer. It shall be a holy anointing oil.

Vs 30,31 "And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests. "And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations.

On occasions, the oil manifests as golden in color.

Zechariah 4:11,12 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees, one at the right of the lampstand and the other at its left?" And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?"

Manifestation of Gold

Golden glory dust is sometimes manifested during times of worship in the intense presence of God.

Job 28:5,6 As for the earth, from it comes bread, but underneath it is turned up as by fire; its stones are the source of sapphires, and it contains gold dust.

According to Jewish tradition, the last thing the bridegroom does before coming for His bride is to send a gift of gold. Gifts of gold were given when Rebekah agreed to marry Isaac.

Genesis 24:15 And it happened, before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah... came out with her pitcher on her shoulder.

Vs 53 Then the servant brought out jewelry of silver, jewelry of gold, and clothing, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother.

Abraham's "unnamed" servant was a type of the Holy Spirit. He gave Rebecca, the Bride, gold after she agreed to marry Isaac, a type of Jesus.

Job 22:24,25 Then you will lay your gold in the dust, and the gold of Ophir among the stones of the brooks. Yes, the Almighty will be your gold and your precious silver;

Psalm 68:13 Though you lie down among the sheepfolds, Yet you will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver, And her feathers with yellow gold."

Haggai 2:7-9 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts. 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

Revelations 21:18,21 And the construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Vs 21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Manifestation of Jewels

On numerous occasions, beautiful gems have fallen during times of the manifestation of the intense glory of God's presence.

In his original state as "the anointed cherub who covers," there is a description of what appears to be Lucifer's ministry in the throne room of heaven as he walked back and forth in the midst of the fiery stones.

Ezekiel 28:11-14 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord God: You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. You were the anointed cherub who

covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.”

The “fiery stones” appear to refer to the precious gems that abounded in the throne-room of heaven reflecting the glorious light that radiated from God Himself.

Revelations 21:10,11, 18-21 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal...

Verses 18-21 And the construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysolite, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Isaiah describes the “Bride” as being adorned with jewels.

Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Manifestation of Feathers

Feathers have also been known to fall in the glory realm of God’s overwhelming presence.

Psalm 91:4 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

Exodus 19:4 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.

Malachi 4:2 But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.

Psalm 17:8 Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings,

Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

Psalm 36:7 How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings.

The manifestation of feathers can also indicate the presence of angels.

Manifestation of Fragrance

Paul, the apostle, referred to us as being “the fragrance of Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14-16 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one we are the aroma of death to death, and to the other the aroma of life to life.

Job described the fragrance of the breath of God being in our nostrils. This manifestation depicts the nearness and close intimacy with God Himself.

Job 27:3 as long as my breath is in me, and the breath of God in my nostrils...

Psalms 45:7,8 You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

In the Song of Solomon we have a beautiful picture of the love relationship between the Bridegroom (Christ) and us as His bride.

Song of Solomon 3:6 Who is this coming out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all the merchant's fragrant powders?

Song of Solomon 4:11 Your lips, O my spouse, drip as the honeycomb; honey and milk are under your tongue; and the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.

Verses 13,14 Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates with pleasant fruits, fragrant henna with spikenard, spikenard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense, myrrh and aloes, with all the chief spices -

These and many other manifestations of the glory of God's awesome presence are biblical signs that remind us of God's overwhelming love, His desire for intimacy with us as His bride and of His soon return.

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. How do we enter into the Spirit realm.

2. Tell about three manifestations of God's Glory you have seen, or that you want to see? Give the scriptural basis for these manifestations.

Lesson 6

Revelation of the Church of Glory

KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY

We started this study on the glory of the Lord with the prophesy of Habakkuk. He spoke of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord that would fill all the earth. We wrote, “It’s to receive that understanding and to experience the knowledge of the glory of the Lord that we have put this study together.”

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Hebrew Word – *Yada*

The Hebrew word translated “knowledge” in the above verse is *yada* and it means “to know, to properly ascertain by seeing, observation, or by recognition.”

This knowledge will not be a head-knowledge, but a knowing by experiencing. This prophecy means that the whole earth will be filled with people seeing, observing, and recognizing the glory of the Lord – the acts of the Lord.

Greek Word – *Gnosis*

The apostle Paul also referred to the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Greek word translated knowledge, *gnosis*, means “knowing, by implication through personal experience.”

The Greek word translated light, *phos*, means “to shine on or make manifest, especially by rays.”

The Greek word translated glory, *doxazo*, means “to render, or esteem, glorious.”

The *Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, by W. E. Vine, says: “*Ginosko* (root word of *gnosis*) signifies to be taking in knowledge, to come to know, recognize, understand, or to understand completely. It frequently indicates a relation between the person knowing and the object known, what is known is of value or importance to the one who knows, and hence the establishment of the relationship.”

Greek Word – *Epignosis*

Paul wrote again about knowledge,

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

The Greek word, *epignosis* (knowledge), used here means “recognition,” or by implication “full discernment, acknowledgement” and again by implication, “to become fully acquainted with, to acknowledge.”

Vs. 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

W. E. Vine writes, “*Epiginosko* denotes, to observe, fully perceive, notice attentively, discern, recognize. It suggests a directive, a more special, recognition of the object known than does *Ginosko*.”

Together with the manifestations of glory, there will be testimonies of what people have experienced, seen, heard about that are going to fill all the earth. It will be the results of the body of Christ operating in their God-given power that will make the glory of God visible to all.

As we seek God’s face, as we come into the glory of his presence, the prophet Daniel gives us a wonderful promise.

Daniel 11:32b The people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

Glory In Places of Worship

➤ *Under the Old Covenant*

Under the Old Covenant, in the Old Testament period, God’s presence would dwell in places of worship. In the tabernacle, His presence, His glory, came in when they brought the Ark of the Covenant into the Holy of Holies.

In Solomon’s Temple, when the priests and the people became as one, in unity, as they entered into praise and worship, the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

2 Chronicles 5:12-14 and the Levites who were the singers ... with their sons and their brethren ... clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets - indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

➤ *Under the New Covenant*

Through the shed blood of Jesus, we have entered into the New Covenant. Through the sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf, God can now dwell with mankind. His glory is on us. His glory dwells in us.

THE MYSTERY – A CHURCH OF GLORY

The Old Testament prophets didn't see the period of time we live in. They didn't see the church age. In effect, it was a mystery.

The revelation spoken by Peter, that Jesus was "the Christ (the anointed one), the Son of the living God" was the beginning of the revelation of that which had been a mystery in times past.

Jesus First Mentions the Church

Jesus first mentioned the word "church" when He was speaking of the revelation that the Father had given by the Holy Spirit to Peter. It was the beginning of the revelation of that which had been a mystery in times past. It was upon this revelation He said He would build His Church.

➤ *Foundational Truth*

Matthew 16:13-15 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

➤ *Peter's Revelation*

Vs. 16-17 And Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock (of revelation of the mystery)"

➤ *Four Characteristics*

1 – Vs 18-19 I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

2 – And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and

3 – whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and

4 – whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Jesus described the church that He would build. It was to be a church of power that Satan and his governments could not prevail against. It was to possess the keys of the Kingdom. It was to have the power to bind and loose.

Paul's Revelation of the Church

In speaking about this "mystery," Paul the apostle said,

Ephesians 5:32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

➤ *The Mystery*

The apostle Paul referred to the church as a mystery which was not revealed in times past.

Ephesians 3:1-5 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles - if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I wrote before in a few words, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:

➤ *The Gentiles Were Included!*

He understood the Gentiles were to be fellow heirs.

Vs. 6-9... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all people see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;

➤ *To Make Known the Manifold Wisdom of God*

Paul said that the purpose of the church is to make known to the principalities and powers in the spirit realm the many aspects of the wisdom of God.

Vs. 10-12 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

By hiding the true meaning of the church that Jesus said He would build, Satan has kept us from realizing our full potential as partakers of the kingdom of God.

Again in Ephesians 5 Paul referred to the church as a mystery.

Ephesians 5:32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Meaning of Word – Church

The church was not to be built on one race, but it was to include the Gentiles also. (“Gentile” refers to any race that is not Jewish.) The church is to be made up of all who are in Christ. In Him, there is to be neither male nor female, Jew nor Greek, slave nor free. Race, gender, or financial standing should make no difference.

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Through years of tradition, the word “church” today has taken on a totally unscriptural meaning. To many it means a religious building or an organization of man.

By hiding the true meaning of the church which Jesus said He would build, Satan has kept us from acting as – being the church.

We Are the Church!

Every promise we have for the church, is a promise for us. We are the church!

➤ *A Church of Glory*

This new revelation, the church that Jesus said He would build, would be “for our glory.”

1 Corinthians 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,

The glory that Adam and Eve had lost when they sinned and “fell short of the glory” was to be restored to us, the “new creations,” in His church.

➤ *The Hope of Glory*

The revelation of who Christ is, “The Son of the living God” is referred to as “the riches of the glory.” The fact that Christ Himself, (The Anointed One) would actually live in us as His Church is referred to as “the hope of glory.”

Colossians 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

➤ *Manifestation of God’s Wisdom*

This “mystery,” hidden from the beginning of ages, has now been revealed to the entire angelic realm of “the principalities and powers in heavenly places” by the church. Paul, the apostle wrote:

Ephesians 3:8-10 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all people see what is the

fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,

➤ *The Called Out Ones*

The original Greek word translated “church” is *eklesia* from the word *ek* meaning “out” and the word *kaleo* meaning “to call.” It simply means those who are “called out.”

We, as the church, are called out according to His purpose.

2 Timothy 1:8-10 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

We, who are referred to as those called according to His purposes are the church. We can't “go to church.” We are the Church! God has an eternal purpose and we are “called according to His purpose.”

➤ *The Bride of Christ*

We are called out to be the Bride of Christ.

Ephesians 5:25-32 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Is there any doubt about why Satan is fighting the God-given institution of marriage? Marriage is to be a picture of the union of Christ and the church.

➤ *God's Purpose*

Ephesians 3:21 ...to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

As those who have been called out “according to His purposes, we are His church individually and corporately. We are each one part of that “called out” gathering or assembly of Believers that He has chosen to call “My Church.” The Old Testament typology of The Tabernacle of Meeting, The Tabernacle of Moses, The Tabernacle of David and later the Temple built by David’s son, Solomon, all contained partial symbolic revelations of a coming “House,” that would be The Church, the very Bride of Christ Himself.

Isaiah 60:7b ...I will glorify the house of My glory.

Psalms 26:8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells.

Ezekiel 44:4 Then He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple; so I looked, and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD; and I fell on my face.

Haggai 2:9 (KJV) The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH

In the Secret Place of the Most High we have been caught up into a realm of the spirit that is so close to God Himself that we find ourselves under the shadow of the Almighty. For true worshipers, this not a place for an occasional visit, but a place where we are to “dwell” or “abide” in His awesome presence.

Psalms 91:1-12

➤ *In the Secret Place*

Vs. 1a He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High

The Hebrew word used here is *cether* and means a covering, a hiding place, or a place of protection.

➤ *Under the Shadow of the Almighty*

Vs. 1b Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

If people could be healed and delivered by the passing shadow of Peter, how much more we can expect if we can “dwell” under the shadow of the Almighty.

Acts 5:15,16 They brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

➤ *My Refuge – My Fortress*

Vs. 2-3 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence.

He will protect us from the tricks of Satan and from disease.

➤ *Under His Wings*

Vs. 4-7 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

➤ *Having No Fear*

You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you.

He will protect us from terror by night – rapists, thieves, terrorists, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes.

➤ *Our Habitation*

Vs. 8-10 Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your habitation, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;

➤ *Protection of Angels*

Vs. 11-12 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you up in their hands, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

We can expect supernatural protection.

THE GLORIOUS CHURCH

We can allow ourselves to get so discouraged at what we are seeing and experiencing in church services today, that we lose sight of the wonderful things God has said about the church. He was not speaking of the churches of our traditions. He was speaking of His body, His believers. We are the church.

Christ Loves the Church

Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Afflictions Working for Us

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

Bringing Us to Glory

Romans 8:18,19 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

Light Shines Out of Darkness

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 58:8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Ephesians 3:21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.

Revival Is Coming

Revival is the glory of God returning to the church.

Isaiah 60:7I will glorify the house of My glory.

Haggai 2: 7I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.

Vs. 9 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 60:1-4 Arise, shine; For your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side.

Bringing Wealth of the Gentiles

Vs. 5 Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.

Vs 7b I will glorify the house of My glory

WHEN GOD'S GLORY INVADES THE EARTH

What a glorious day it is when God's glory invades the earth! We will experience Intensified Glory – An Ever Increasing Glory – A glory that will fill all the earth! God desires this for you and for me. As we change our natural mind-set to a supernatural mind-set and allow our spirits to reach out and believe everything He has said is true for us, we will see the miraculous happen everywhere we go.

We will have ...

Supernatural Health and Provision

Based on 3 John, verse 2, it's God's will for His people to prosper and be in health.

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

Supernatural Provision

Based on Philippians 4:19, we know that God will supply all our needs.

My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

According to Psalms 105:37 and 39-41 we believe Him for silver and gold, strong bodies, and supernatural food and water.

He also brought them out with silver and gold, And there was none feeble among His tribes

He spread a cloud for a covering, And fire to give light in the night. The people asked, and He brought quail, And satisfied them with the bread of heaven. He opened the rock, and water gushed out; It ran in the dry places like a river.

Supernatural Joy

We can experience overwhelming joy in His presence.

Psalms 105:43 He brought out His people with joy, His chosen ones with gladness.

Psalms 16:11b ...In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Acts 2:28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of joy in Your presence.'

Behold His Face and Beauty

We can come into a place of beholding the face and beauty of the Lord.

Psalms 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

Psalms 27:8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

Experience God's Abiding Presence

We can experience his abiding presence, even in the face of our enemies.

Psalms 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Hear His Voice

We can hear his voice.

John 10:3,4 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Be Under His Protective Covering

We can be under His protective covering.

Psalm 105:39 He spread a cloud for a covering, And fire to give light in the night.

Bask in the Warmth of His Glory

He will send His fire of His glory for my protection.

Zechariah 2:5 'For I,' says the LORD 'will be fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'"

Have Revelation – Illumination and Light

He will provide us with supernatural light.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Guidance and Direction

He will give us guidance and direction.

Nehemiah 9:19 Yet in Your manifold mercies You did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of the cloud did not depart from them by day, to lead them on the road; nor the pillar of fire by night, to show them light, and the way they should go.

Protection from Our Enemies

He will send His angels to protect us from our enemies.

Exodus 14:19,20 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before them and stood behind. So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

Isaiah 58:8 your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your LORD shall be your rear guard.

Protection for Our Nation

He will heal our land.

2 Chronicles 7:14 "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Strengthening

He will strengthen our inner man.

Ephesians 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

Supernatural Glory

God is our glory!

Psalms 3:3 But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine, For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

Vs. 5,6 Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. The multitude of camels shall cover your land, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

And God Has Said

***"Prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low;
the crooked places shall be made straight,
and the rough places smooth;
the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
Isaiah 40:3-5***

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What is the secret place of the most high? Give at least three scriptures to define your answer.

2. What are the benefits of soaking in his presence?