

***The Gospel of the Glory of the Blessed God*****Monday 1/22****Related Verses****Acts 7:2**

2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,

**Rom. 9:23**

23 In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory,

**1 Tim. 1:11**

11 According to the gospel of the glory of the blessed God, with which I was entrusted.

**Exo. 40:34**

34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.

**Acts 7:55**

55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

**2 Pet. 1:3**

3 Seeing that His divine power has granted to us all things which relate to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who has called us by His own glory and virtue,

**Rev. 21:11**

11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.

**Eph. 1:6, 10, 12**

6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;

10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ.

**Related Reading**

Stephen's word about the God of glory fits in with God's New Testament economy. In his second Epistle Peter tells us that God has called us by His glory and to

His glory (2 Pet. 1:3). Because we were called by the glory of God our Savior (v. 1), we eventually received the Lord Jesus, realizing that He is better than anything and anyone else.

The God of glory called Abraham, and Abraham was attracted and caught by that glory. The principle is the same with us today...We have been captured by His glory. One day the God of glory came to us through the preaching of the gospel, and we were attracted and convinced and began to appreciate Him. During that time, the God of glory transfused some element of His being into us, and we believed in Him spontaneously. To be attracted by the God of glory means that God transfused Himself into His called ones without their realizing it or being conscious of it...If we stay with Him for a period of time, He will transfuse Himself into us. This transfusion will cause infusion, saturation, and permeation. Once God has transfused Himself into us, we cannot escape; we must believe in Him. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 36-37)

---

God created man as a vessel to contain Him, and out of the many vessels He chose us to contain Him, the God of honor, that we might be vessels of honor. Finally, He makes known His glory upon us, the vessels, that we might become vessels of His glory (Rom. 9:23). All this is out of His mercy and according to His mercy; it cannot be obtained by our efforts. For this reason we must worship Him, and we must worship Him for His mercy! (Rom. 9:21, footnote 1)

God's economy is "according to the gospel of the glory of the blessed God" (1 Tim. 1:11). Have you heard this expression before? Many have heard of the gospel of grace, the gospel of forgiveness, the gospel of justification, and the gospel of regeneration but not the gospel of glory. This gospel not only brings good news concerning forgiveness of sins and justification by faith; the gospel of glory is the gospel of God's economy. Glory is God expressed. Thus, the gospel of glory is the gospel of the expressed God; it is a gospel that expresses God's glory.

*The gospel of the glory of the blessed God* is an excellent expression. It refers to God's economy

mentioned in verse 4. The gospel with which the apostle Paul was entrusted is the effulgence of the glory of the blessed God. By dispensing God's life and nature in Christ into His chosen people, this gospel shines forth God's glory, in which God is blessed among His people. This is the commission and ministry the apostle received of the Lord (v. 12). This should be commonly taught and preached in a local church.

In verse 17 Paul says, "Now to the King of the ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." This word needs to be understood in relation to the decline of the church. When Paul was in prison, the churches began to decline, and the situation was very disappointing. Many were discouraged. Even some of Paul's coworkers left him. But he had a strong faith with an absolute assurance that the very God in whom he believed, the One who had entrusted him with the gospel of glory, is the King of the ages. He never changes. No earthly king can be called *the King of the ages*. Caesar was a temporary ruler, but how different is our God! The God whom Paul served truly is the King of the ages. This means that He is King of eternity. He never changes; He always remains the same. (*Life-study of 1 Timothy*, second edition, pp. 12-13, 15)

Further Reading: *Life-study of 1 Timothy*, msg. 1

**Tuesday 1/23****Related Verses****2 Cor. 4:4, 6**

4 In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.

6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**John 12:31**

31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.

**John 14:30**

**30** I will no longer speak much with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and in Me he has nothing;

**John 16:11**

**11** And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

**Eph. 2:2**

**2** In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;

**Matt. 12:26-29**

**26** And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

**27** And if I, by Beelzebul, cast out the demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges.

**28** But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

**29** Or how can anyone enter into the house of the strong man and plunder his goods unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will thoroughly plunder his house.

**Related Reading**

In 2 Corinthians 4:3 Paul [says], “And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled in those who are perishing.” In some the gospel is veiled by old concepts, especially the concept concerning the law (3:14-15). In principle, anything such as philosophy, religion, or cultural traditions that hinders people from apprehending the gospel of Christ is a veil. Hence, the preaching of Christ must unveil them, just as in photography the cover is removed from the lens in order to take a picture.

The god of this age in [4:4] is Satan, the deceiver, the ruler of this present age. He dominates today's world and hunts for man's worship by blinding his mind and his thoughts. In this verse *blinded* means to veil a person's understanding. Furthermore, the thoughts here denote “the understanding” or “the mind.” (*Life-study of 2 Corinthians*, second edition, pp. 77-78)

---

Those who are blinded or veiled think that they do not worship anything. Actually, their god is Satan. Atheists worship Satan without knowing what they are doing. All people today, whether primitive or highly cultured, have been blinded by the god of this age.

If we would receive the revelation of the Son of God, we need to drop our concepts. Every concept, whether spiritual or carnal, is a veil. I have spent many years groping in my search to learn how to have revelation. Eventually I discovered that to have revelation we need to drop our concepts.

God today is shining everywhere. This age of grace is an age of light. God is shining, and the Bible is shining also. The Bible is full of light, and it has been printed in hundreds of languages. Moreover, the all-inclusive Spirit moving on earth is full of grace. But although the Bible is shining and the Spirit is moving, many still do not receive revelation. The reason is that they hold to certain concepts and are veiled by these concepts.

With respect to receiving revelation, there is no problem on God's side...The problem is altogether on our side. We need to drop the veils, that is, to drop our concepts. It is important for us to pray, “Lord, help me to drop everything that is a veil.”...If you drop your concepts as you read the Word, you will read it with an unveiled face. Then the light will shine into you subjectively.

Today many of us earnestly desire to live Christ. But to live Christ we need revelation. As we have pointed out again and again, the only way revelation can come to us is if we drop our concepts. We also need to pray, “Lord, I trust in You to defeat the god of this age. Apart from You, I do not worship anything. Lord, I turn my heart to You, and I drop all my concepts. I don't want to worship anyone other than You.” If you pray in this way, the light will shine, and you will receive revelation. If you drop your concepts and turn your heart to the Lord, the veils will be taken away, and the god of this age will have no ground in your being.

If we would see such a revelation of the living person, we must begin by dropping our veils, our concepts. Second, we need to turn our hearts to the Lord. According to 2 Corinthians 3:16, when the heart turns to

the Lord, the veil will be taken away. The more you turn your heart to the Lord, the less ground the god of this age will have in your life and in your being. Then you will be under the shining of the heavenly light, and you will receive the revelation of the living person...Let us all drop the veils and, by His mercy and grace, turn our hearts to Him. (*Life-study of Galatians*, second edition, pp. 31-34)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Galatians*, msg. 4; *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 324; *Life-study of John*, msg. 36

**Wednesday 1/24****Related Verses****John 1:14**

**14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

**John 12:23-24**

**23** And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

**24** Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

**Matt. 17:2**

**2** And He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as the light.

**John 7:18**

**18** He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.

**John 8:50, 54**

**50** But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks glory for Me and judges.

**54** Jesus answered, If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say that He is your God.

**Luke 24:46**

**46** And He said to them, Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise up from the dead on the third day,

***The Gospel of the Glory of the Blessed God*****Heb. 2:9-10**

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little inferior to the angels because of the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death on behalf of everything.

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

**Related Reading**

Christ as the second of the Triune God possessed the divine glory from eternity past. John 1:1 reveals that Christ, the Word, is God: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." As God, Christ has the divine glory. Since Christ was God from eternity past, He possessed the divine glory also from eternity past. What is the divine glory? The divine glory is God Himself. God Himself is glory.

Christ's humanity through His incarnation became a shell to conceal the glory of His divinity. Instead of the words *His humanity*, it is perhaps better to use the expression *His flesh*, for John 1:14 tells us that the very God became flesh. This flesh, this humanity, became a shell to conceal the glory of Christ's divinity. Christ's divinity is itself the divine glory. Just as God is light, divinity is glory. When Christ was in the flesh, in His humanity, His flesh was a shell that concealed His divinity and thereby concealed His glory. (*CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 5, "The Issue of Christ Being Glorified by the Father with the Divine Glory," pp. 318-319)

---

Because the divine glory was concealed within the shell of His flesh, it was necessary for [Christ] to be glorified. In John 12:23 He said, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." In 17:1 He prayed, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You." In verse 5 He went on to say, "Now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

As God, Christ Himself was glory, but this glory was concealed in the shell of His humanity, and thus His divine glory could not be seen. Others could see His shell, but they could not see His glory concealed within

the shell. However, in his Gospel the apostle John says, "We beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father" (1:14). He, along with Peter and James, beheld the Lord's glory when He was transfigured on the mountain [cf. Matt. 17:2]. His transfiguration was a glorification. While He was living in the shell of His flesh, He temporarily came out of His flesh and was glorified.

Whereas only three beheld the glorified Jesus on the mountain before His resurrection, after His resurrection millions can see Him. Today we see not a Christ who is still in the shell but a Christ who has come out of the shell and has been glorified.

The Lord Jesus...desired to be released from the constraint of the shell of His flesh. He referred to this release in John 12:24...If the Lord Jesus as a grain of wheat had not died, He would have remained the same. But He fell into the ground and died, and that death released Him from His human shell. His incarnation caused His divine glory to be concealed in His flesh, but through His death His glory was released for the producing in His resurrection of the many grains, which become His increase as the expression of His glory. (*CWWL, 1994-1997*, vol. 5, "The Issue of Christ Being Glorified by the Father with the Divine Glory," pp. 319-321)

In eternity the Lamb as the lamp will shine with God as the light to illuminate the New Jerusalem with the glory of God, which glory is the expression of the divine light. God as the light, and Christ as the lamp, the light-bearer, indicate that God and Christ cannot be separated. Actually they are one light. God is the content, and Christ is the light-bearer for the expression of God...God the Father is in the Son to be expressed through the Son. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 360)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1993*, vol. 1, "God's Salvation in Life," ch. 4

**Thursday 1/25****Related Verses****Heb. 1:3**

3 Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

**2 Cor. 3:18**

18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

**Col. 1:15**

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

**2 Cor. 1:3**

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassions and God of all comfort;

**2 Cor. 4:3**

3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled in those who are perishing,

**Rev. 6:2**

2 And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and he who sits on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went forth conquering and to conquer.

**Rom. 1:25**

25 Who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshipped and served the creation rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

**Rom. 9:5**

5 Whose are the fathers, and out of whom, as regards what is according to flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

**Related Reading**

Christ as the image of God is the effulgence of His glory (Heb. 1:3). Hence, the gospel of Christ is the gospel of His glory that illuminates and shines forth. Satan, the god of this age, has blinded the thoughts and the minds of the unbelievers so that the illumination of

***The Gospel of the Glory of the Blessed God***

the gospel of Christ's glory might not shine into their hearts. This is similar to covering the lens of a camera so that the light cannot shine into the camera...When the shutter is pressed, there is a way for the light with the object, the figure, the image, to shine into the camera and be impressed on the film...However, if the lens of the camera is covered, there is no way for the light to shine into the camera. Sometimes when we preach the gospel to others, they are like a camera with the lens covered. The light cannot shine into them...By His mercy and grace, the satanic cover has been removed from our minds!

The unveiled face in 2 Corinthians 3:18 is the uncovered mind in chapter 4. According to Paul's concept, these two things are one. To have an unveiled face, therefore, is to have an uncovered mind. (*Life-study of 2 Corinthians*, second edition, p. 78)

---

As light shines into us, it brings in the image of Christ. This illumination shines into our spirit through our mind. Our spirit can be compared to the film. When the shining comes into us through our open mind, it reaches our spirit and brings the figure of Christ, the image of God, into us. In the church we are practicing such a spiritual and heavenly photography.

Second Corinthians 4:5 says, "For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord..." For explains why the apostles' gospel, which is the gospel of the glory of Christ, should not have been veiled, for they did not preach, exalt, themselves but Christ Jesus as Lord of all, and they conducted themselves as the believers' slaves for Jesus' sake.

Christ Jesus as Lord comprises Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever (Rom. 9:5), the eternal Word incarnated to be a man (John 1:14), Jesus crucified as a man to be our Savior (Acts 4:10-12) and resurrected to be the Son of God (13:33), and Christ exalted to be the Lord (2:36), even the Lord of all men (10:36; Rom. 10:12; John 20:28; 1 Cor. 12:3), who is the image of God, the effulgence of God's glory (Heb. 1:3). This is the very content of the gospel. Hence, the gospel is the gospel of the glory of Christ, which illuminates, radiates, and shines in the heart of man. If man's heart is not

veiled with anything or blinded by Satan, the god of this age, man can see the illumination of the gospel.

Second Corinthians 4:6 says, "The God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."...The apostles preached Christ as Lord and themselves as the believers' slaves, because the very God who commanded light to shine out of darkness had shined in their hearts. His shining in the universe produced the old creation. Now His shining in their hearts made them a new creation. (*Life-study of 2 Corinthians*, second edition, pp. 78-80)

God's shining in our hearts results in the illumination of knowing the glory of God in the face of Christ, that is, in the enlightenment that causes us to know the glory of the gospel of Christ. This illumination, this enlightenment, that makes the glory of Christ's gospel known to us issues from the shining of God in our hearts. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 1213)

Further Reading: *Life-study of 2 Corinthians*, msg. 9

**Friday 1/26****Related Verses****2 Cor. 4:4, 6**

4 In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.

6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 7:2-3, 55-56**

2 And he said, Men, brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,

3 And said to him, "Come out from your land and from your relatives, and come into the land which I will show you."

55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

56 And he said, Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.

**John 17:1, 4-5, 22**

1 These things Jesus spoke, and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You;

4 I have glorified You on earth, finishing the work which You have given Me to do.

5 And now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

**Related Reading**

Second Corinthians 4:4 indicates that the terms *God*, *image*, *Christ*, *glory*, *gospel*, and *illumination* are all in apposition to one another; thus, they all refer to the same wonderful person. God is the image, the image is Christ, Christ is the glory, the glory is the gospel, and the gospel is the illumination. First, the expression *the image of God* shows that the image is in apposition to God. God, who is the source, has an image, and this image is simply God Himself. If we see the image of God, we see God; if God disappears, His image disappears as well...Therefore, the image of God is nothing less than God Himself.

Second...the image of God is Christ. As the image of God, Christ is the expression of the invisible God. Third, Christ is the glory. This is confirmed by Hebrews 1:3, which says that Christ is the effulgence of God's glory. Fourth, Christ, the glory, is the gospel. Acts tells us that the believers preached Christ Jesus as the gospel (5:42; 8:35; 11:20; 17:18). This shows that the gospel is not something separate from Christ; rather, Christ is the gospel. Today some Christians in their preaching separate the gospel from Christ. But according to the divine revelation in the Bible, the gospel is a living person, Christ. Christ who is the gospel is the image of God, and the image of God is God. Therefore, the gospel is God Himself embodied and expressed in Christ. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 3206)

---

Fifth, the gospel is the illumination, the enlightenment. The gospel is the gospel of the glory of Christ, which illuminates, radiates, and shines in the

heart of man. When the gospel came to us, it came to us by shining, and this shining brought into us Christ, who is the image of the processed Triune God. As a result, Christ, the living person, was illuminated into our being. Many believers can testify that when they heard Christ as the gospel, a certain impression of Christ entered into them. Although they may try to reject this impression of Christ or erase it from their being, they cannot do it. Once the impression of Christ is illuminated into us, it remains within us forever. This illumination is the gospel, this gospel is the glory, this glory is Christ, Christ is the image of God, and as such, Christ is God. Therefore, what has been illuminated into our being is a living person, the Triune God embodied in Christ, who is the image, the expression, of God.

The Christ of glory as the excellent treasure is received by the believers through the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ. We need to remember that we have within us the treasure, a living person who is more excellent than the world. Christ is the most excellent One in the whole universe; there is nothing that is more excellent than He. Since we have Christ as the treasure, the most excellent One and the most lovely One, we do not love the world. It is not that we should not love the world but that the world is inferior to the treasure, the excellent and lovely Christ. We treasure the Lord more than the world.

The illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, has shined on us. The gospel of the glory of Christ in 2 Corinthians 4:4 corresponds with the knowledge of the glory of God in verse 6...The illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God is in the face of Jesus Christ. This indicates that the gospel preached by the apostle was not a doctrine, theology, or teaching; rather, it was a lovely person on whose face we can see the glory of God, the image of God. When we experience the glory of God shining in the face of Jesus Christ, this shining brings into us Christ as the image of God. We are attracted to such a Christ. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3206-3207, 3210)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 317

### Saturday 1/27

#### Related Verses

##### **Phil. 2:15-16**

**15** That you may be blameless and guileless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as luminaries in the world,

**16** Holding forth the word of life, so that I may have a boast in the day of Christ that I did not run in vain nor labor in vain.

##### **2 Cor. 4:7**

**7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.

##### **John 1:18**

**18** No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

##### **Matt. 5:13-16**

**13** You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt has become tasteless, with what shall it be salted? It is no longer good for anything except to be cast out and trampled underfoot by men.

**14** You are the light of the world. It is impossible for a city situated upon a mountain to be hidden.

**15** Nor do men light a lamp and place it under the bushel, but on the lampstand; and it shines to all who are in the house.

**16** In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in the heavens.

##### **Eph. 5:8-9**

**8** For you were once darkness but are now light in the Lord; walk as children of light

**9** (For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),

#### Related Reading

The gospel of the glory of Christ first shines into us, and then it shines out from within us. The more the glory shines within us, the more it penetrates into our being and saturates it. Eventually, the inner glory will consume, swallow up, our entire inward being. Then the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ will shine out through us. Such a shining cannot come by way of

teaching; it can come only through the experience of Christ who is Himself the glory of God and the manifestation of God. We praise the Lord that Christ has shone into the depths of our being, that now He is shining within us, and that He will shine throughout our inward being. Therefore, we need to pay attention to the inner shining of Christ as the glory within. The goal of God's economy is that we all shine forth His glory. As we are under such a shining, Christ saturates us with Himself, and we enjoy the sweetness of Christ living in us to be our life and our person. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, p. 3207)

---

God's shining in our hearts [in 2 Corinthians 4:6] results in the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, that is, in the enlightenment that causes us to know the glory of the gospel of Christ...God's shining in the universe produced the old creation. His shining in our hearts has made us a new creation, because this shining brings into us, earthen vessels, the marvelous treasure of the Christ of glory.

The shining of God in our hearts is to illumine us that we may know the glory in Christ's face. The glory of God manifested in the face of Jesus Christ is the God of glory expressed through Jesus Christ, who is the effulgence of the glory of God (Heb. 1:3); to know Him is to know the God of glory. In particular, the illumination in 2 Corinthians 4:6, which refers to the shining of God's light on others out from those whose hearts have been enlightened by God, corresponds with the manifestation of the truth in verse 2 and is the same as the shining in Matthew 5:16 and Philippians 2:15. God shines in our hearts that we may shine on others so that they may have the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, that is, the knowledge of Christ, who expresses and declares God (John 1:18).

In order to experience God's shining, we need to have direct, personal, and intimate contact with Christ. This contact will cause God to shine in our hearts. God may shine upon us, but if we want Him to shine *in* us, we need to have direct, intimate contact with Him...By calling on the Lord we are brought into face-to-face contact with Him and experience God's shining in our heart. Only when we have such direct, personal, and

intimate contact with the Lord do we have the inner shining. Whenever we call on the Lord in a dear, intimate way, we are before His face, and the shining of God is in our heart. Then we may shine out what we have received for the shining of the glory of the gospel of Christ.

We need to preach the gospel in a very illuminating way. This means that while we are preaching, God shines into the hearts of those to whom we are speaking. We also need to help them to call on the name of the Lord Jesus in order that they would be brought to the face of Christ, have personal contact with Him, and experience God's shining in their hearts. To preach in this way is to present not merely a gospel of certain facts but a gospel of glory. Those who receive the gospel of glory will have Christ as the precious treasure dispensed into them. Then, like us, they will be earthen vessels containing this treasure. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3207-3209)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 317 Enlightenment and inspiration

### Lord's Day 1/28

#### Related Verses

#### **Psa. 24:7-10**

7 Lift up your heads, O gates; And be lifted up, O long enduring doors; And the King of glory will come in.

8 Who is the King of glory? Jehovah strong and mighty! Jehovah mighty in battle!

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; And lift up, O long enduring doors; And the King of glory will come in.

10 Who is this King of glory? Jehovah of hosts - He is the King of glory!

#### **1 Thes. 2:12, 20**

12 So that you might walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

20 For you are our glory and joy.

#### **1 Pet. 5:10-11**

10 But the God of all grace, He who has called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.

11 To Him be the glory and the might forever and ever. Amen.

#### **Eph. 3:20-21**

20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,

21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

#### **Further Reading:**

Further Reading: *Life-study of 1 Timothy*, msg. 1

#### **Hymn: #948**

1 Myst'ry hid from ages now revealed to me,  
'Tis the Christ of God's reality.  
He embodies God, and He is life to me,  
And the glory of my hope He'll be.

Glory, glory, Christ is life in me!  
Glory, glory, what a hope is He!  
Now within my spirit He's the mystery!  
Then the glory He will be to me.

2 In my spirit He regenerated me,  
In my soul He's now transforming me.  
He will change my body like unto His own,  
Wholly making me the same as He.

3 Now in life and nature He is one with me  
Then in Him, the glory, I will be;  
I'll enjoy His presence for eternity  
With Him in complete conformity.

#### **Churchwide Truth Pursuit**

*The All-inclusive Christ*, chs. 9-10