



## Don't Touch the Glory

Rev. Fred A. Hartley, III  
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*"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" Psalm 115:1*

*"And when they came to the threshing floor of Nacón, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God." 2 Samuel 6:6-7*

Learning to encounter the glory of Christ appropriately is essential for every kingdom leader. None of us are prepared to respond appropriately to God's glory; we all must learn how to interact with God's glory.

"Glory" is the expression and manifestation of God's presence, the sum total of His divine attributes. "Glory" is the manifest presence of Christ.

We who love God's manifest presence, consistently encounter His manifest presence, and lead others into His manifest presence—we of all people must learn how to appropriately encounter the glory without touching the glory.

Uzzah was responsible for transporting the ark of the covenant as it was brought into Jerusalem. He was at the front of the parade, and enjoyed the exuberant celebration when David danced before the Lord with all his might. Yet Uzzah flagrantly violated God's standards of transporting the ark. Rather than using poles, which were the Levitical standard so that hands would not touch the ark, but would lift it, touching the wooden rods, Uzzah chose to follow the pagan format of transportation, and put the ark on an oxen-drawn cart. When the cart dipped into a pothole, Uzzah chose to extend his hand to stabilize his man-made cart. His disobedience led to this flagrant violation of touching the glory. He tragically thought that his hand was more holy than the dirt beneath his feet.

Kingdom leader, receive this sober warning: Don't touch the glory!

Some attributes of God are communicable (i.e. love, peace, joy, patience) and some attributes are non-communicable (i.e. omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence). Glory is one of those distinct attributes of God that are both communicable and non-communicable.

There are aspects of God's glory that he allows us to receive, experience, and appreciate.

*"Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1:17*

*"To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus." Ephesians 3:21*

There are also aspects of God's glory that he does not share with anyone.

*"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" Psalm 115:1*

*"Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above the earth and heaven." Psalm 148:13*

### ACTIVATION

Don't touch the glory, because his glory doesn't need any help from you.

Don't touch the glory, because it is impossible for you to add anything of value to it.

Don't touch the glory, because there are dimensions to his glory intended for God alone.

Don't touch the glory, because it could kill you.

Don't touch the glory, because it will disqualify you from ministry.

Don't touch the glory, because while you serve the glory, you will never deserve the glory.

Don't touch the glory, because any desire in you to touch it comes from an evil place.

Don't touch the glory, because, while God shares his glory with us, he does not give us dominion over it.

Don't touch the glory, because while his glory adds weight to us, you and I will never add one ounce of weight to his glory.

Don't touch the glory, because you and I will never add anything to his glory.

Don't touch the glory, because it is utterly impossible for us to add anything to his glory.

Don't touch the glory, because our hands are never as clean as His.

