



## SERMON REFLECTION GUIDE

Luke, Part 31: The Glory of God in Jesus Christ - Luke 9:28-36 - June 22, 2025

### SERMON OUTLINE

Intro - Fireworks, and their reflection

**The Glory of God** (mentioned over 300 times in the Bible)

1. A singular *attribute* of the divinity. God is glorious.
2. What is *owed* to God by his people. We glorify God.
3. A *summary* of the pre-eminence and magnificence of God.

כְּבוֹד (*kabōd*) - “glory” — Honor, Splendor, Weightiness/Heaviness

Related: שְׁכִינָה (*shekinah*) — Dwelling, Settling

### GLORY SETTLED

The Shekinah glory appears often in the OT as “*fire*” and “*cloud*”

It is God’s settled glory that leads the Hebrews in the wilderness, descends on the tent of meeting, and accompanies Moses for the inscribing of the Law.

The glory of God descends to occupy the tabernacle (*Ex. 40:34*) and the temple (*2 Chron. 7:1*)

### GLORY DEPARTED

As Israel ceases to glorify YHWH and desecrates the temple, *the glory of God rises up from the temple and departs* Jerusalem eastward over the Mount of Olives. (See: *Ezekiel 10-11*)

*And she named the child Ichabod, saying, “The glory has departed from Israel!”* - 1 Sam. 4:21

For 600 years, the glory of God was not made manifest among the children of Israel.

### GLORY RETURNED

The first glimpse of the *return* of God’s glory is with the angels who visit the shepherds outside of Bethlehem on the night of Jesus’ birth. “*The glory of the Lord shone around them*” (*Lk. 2:9*)

### THE TRANSFIGURATION

As Jesus is transfigured - Peter, John, and James “*saw his glory*” (*Lk. 9:32*)

John later recounts - “*we have seen his glory*” (*Jn. 1:14*)

**Illustration:** Michael Jordan in a suit, Clark Kent - the incarnation was a veil over the eternal glory of the Son of God.

It is important to remember - that though he remains incarnate at the right hand of God, Jesus once again exists with “*the glory he had with the Father before the world began.*” (*Jn. 17:5*)

**Illustration:** a comparison of church architecture and what it communicates about our understand of God’s glory.

• *Moses and Elijah:*

- Dead, but alive! We too, go to be with the Lord upon our earthly passing.
- They too share in God’s glory, as we will one day - see: *1 Jn. 3:2*
- The entire OT is represented in *Moses (The Law)* and *Elijah (The Prophets)*
- Discussing the Gospel with Jesus! “*His departure/exodus from Jerusalem*”

• *Peter* wants to secure the moment for the long-term.

- reveals a lack of understanding of what Jesus said in *Luke 9:23-26*

• *The cloud and voice:*

- “*Cloud*” shows up 3 times within 22 words. A clear call back to OT Shekinah glory.
- God reiterates Peter’s confession — Jesus is “*Son*” (*Ps. 2*) and “*Chosen One*” (*Is. 42*)
- And if Jesus is the Messiah, they (and we!) must “*Listen to him!*”

Peter reflects on the Transfiguration in *2 Peter 2:16-18*, and then says “*we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed... prophecy of Scripture*” (*v. 19*)



## **SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. If the OT term for “glory” meant weightiness, what carries the most weight in your life? Does it deserve the glory you bestow upon it?
2. Why was God’s glory so tangible in the early portions of the OT Hebrew experience? What about the location of the glory of God in the tabernacle and temple?
3. How catastrophic was the departure of God’s glory from the temple in Ezekiel? Why did the glory leave?
4. How does the NT show the re-emergence of God’s glory in the arrival of Jesus Christ?
5. What was going on in the transfiguration? What were the three disciples seeing?
6. What is the connection between God’s glory in Jesus and God’s command to listen to Jesus?