

“Appearing with Him in Glory”

Summary

In this powerful message, we're challenged to embrace the mind of Christ and live a life of humility and obedience.

The central theme revolves around Colossians 3:4, reminding us that when Christ, who is our life, appears, we too shall appear with Him in glory. This isn't just about a future event; it's about allowing Christ to appear in our daily lives now. We're encouraged to follow Jesus' example of humility, as outlined in Philippians 2. Just as Jesus made Himself of no reputation and took on the form of a servant, we're called to do the same.

The message draws an interesting parallel between our spiritual journey and a 'halo' dog collar, symbolizing our need for God's guidance and boundaries. This analogy reminds us that true freedom comes from staying within God's will and proximity to Him. As we learn to 'obey the beep' and stay close to our Master, we become portals for heaven to enter our neighborhoods and spheres of influence.

This message is deeply relevant to our faith journey, challenging us to die to self, embrace humility, and live in obedience to God's voice. It's a call to allow Christ to appear in and through us, transforming not just our lives, but the world around us.

Chapters

Chapter 1: Christ Appearing and Our Response

0:00 - 10:00

We explore the concept of Christ appearing and how we should respond.

Chapter 2: The Mind of Christ and Humility

10:00 - 20:00

We delve into the importance of having the mind of Christ and practicing humility.

Chapter 3: Obedience and Its Rewards

20:00 - 30:00

We discuss the importance of obedience and its spiritual rewards.

Chapter 4: Living Within God's Boundaries

30:00 - 40:00

We examine the importance of living within the boundaries God has set for us.

Main Points

Title: Humility and Obedience: The Path to Appearing with Jesus in Glory

Sermon Summary: This sermon explores the concept of Christ appearing and believers appearing with Him in glory. It emphasizes the importance of humility, obedience, and selflessness in following Christ's example. The pastor discusses the need for Christians to be relatable, serve others, and willingly submit to God's guidance, likening this submission to wearing a "halo collar" that keeps believers close to their Master.

Key Points:

- Christ is appearing now and will appear in the future
- Believers are called to have the same mind as Christ, characterized by humility and obedience
- We must decrease so that Christ may increase in our lives
- Serving others and being relatable are crucial aspects of Christian living
- Humility is a choice we must make, not something God does for us
- Obedience, even to the point of "death" to self, is necessary for spiritual growth
- God will exalt those who humble themselves in due time
- We need to stay within the boundaries God sets for us, like a "halo collar" for spiritual guidance

Scripture Reference:

- Colossians 3:4
- Philippians 2:5-11
- John 13:1-17
- 2 Corinthians 10:4-6
- Hebrews 5:8-9

Stories:

- The pastor's personal experience with Arthur Burt, who called him out on his pride
- The analogy of mountain goats bowing to let others pass on a narrow path
- The concept of the "halo collar" for dogs, used as a metaphor for God's guidance and boundaries in a believer's life
- The pastor's experience of driving the speed limit and feeling like a "nuisance" to neighbors, but realizing it was an act of obedience that brought blessing to the area

Small group guide

Small Group Guide: "Appearing with Him in Glory"

Opening Prayer:

Ask a volunteer to open the group in prayer, inviting God's presence and guidance.

Key Takeaways:

1. Christ is appearing now and will appear in the future.
2. We are called to have the same mindset as Christ - humility and obedience.
3. Our life is found in Christ, not in our independent efforts.
4. God is inviting us to stay in proximity to Him through obedience.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentioned that Christ is appearing now and will appear in the future. How have you seen Christ "appearing" in your life or in the world around you recently?
2. Reflect on Philippians 2:5-8. What does it mean to have the same mindset as Christ? How can we practically apply this in our daily lives?
3. The sermon emphasized the importance of humility. Can you share a time when you struggled with pride? How did you overcome it?
4. The pastor used the analogy of a "halo collar" to describe our relationship with God. How do you feel about this analogy? In what ways might God be trying to keep you within His "boundaries"?
5. Discuss the statement: "Christ, who is our life, shall appear." What does it mean for Christ to be our life? How does this change our perspective on daily living?
6. The sermon touched on the idea of "dying to self." What areas in your life do you find most challenging to surrender to God?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, practice intentional humility in your interactions with others. Look for opportunities to serve without seeking recognition.
2. Reflect on areas where you might be resisting God's guidance. Write these down and pray over them, asking God for the strength to obey.

3. Set aside time each day to "stay in proximity" to God through prayer, Bible reading, or worship.

4. Identify one area where you need to "take up your cross" and follow Christ more closely. Share this with a trusted friend or accountability partner.

Closing Prayer:

Close the session by praying for each other, asking God for the grace to remain obedient and humble, and for the ability to appear with Christ in glory.

Scripture to Meditate On:

Colossians 3:4 - "When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."

Scriptures

Here are the [scripture references](#) mentioned or alluded to in the message:

1. Colossians 3:4
2. Philippians 2:5-11
3. Revelation 3:20
4. John 13:1-17
5. 1 Peter 5:6
6. Proverbs 13:10
7. 2 Corinthians 10:4-6
8. Hebrews 5:8-9
9. Romans 8:19-22
10. Ecclesiastes 3:21
11. Revelation 19:11 (allusion to Jesus riding a horse)
12. Proverbs 4:23

[Additional relevant verses](#) that align with the main themes discussed:

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."
2. Matthew 16:24 - "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'"
3. Galatians 5:16 - "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."
4. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."
5. 1 Corinthians 15:31 - "I die every day—I mean that, brothers and sisters—just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord."
6. Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

These additional verses support the sermon's themes of humility, obedience, dying to self, and staying close to God.

Discussion Questions

How does the concept of Christ appearing in our lives challenge us to reevaluate our priorities and focus?

In what ways can we practically apply the idea of 'letting this mind be in you that was also in Christ' in our daily lives and decision-making?

How might our understanding of humility and servanthood change if we truly embraced Jesus' example of washing His disciples' feet?

What are some practical ways we can 'take up our cross' in today's context, and how does this relate to dying to our independent living?

How can we cultivate a heart that is more responsive to God's 'beeps' and warnings in our spiritual lives?

In what ways does the analogy of the 'halo collar' challenge or enhance your view of obedience to God?

How might our perspective on pride and humility shift if we truly internalized the idea that 'wherever there is strife, there is pride'?

What does it mean to you personally to have Christ as your life, and how does this impact your daily choices and attitudes?

How can we balance the desire for spiritual growth and influence with the need to stay within God's appointed boundaries for us?

In what ways can we prepare ourselves to 'appear with Christ in glory,' and what might that look like in both our present and future?

Devotional – Appearing with Him in Glory

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from the transcription:

Day 1: Humility and Obedience

Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Devotional: Today we reflect on Christ's example of humility and obedience. Just as Jesus "made himself nothing" and became obedient to death, we are called to cultivate a similar mindset. Consider areas in your life where pride may be hindering your spiritual growth. How can you actively choose humility today? Remember, true greatness in God's kingdom comes through serving others and submitting to His will. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you "let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."

Day 2: Christ as Our Life

Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Devotional: "When Christ, who is your life, appears..." These words remind us that our true identity and purpose are found in Jesus. Reflect on what it means for Christ to be your life. How does this perspective change the way you approach your daily activities, relationships, and challenges? Consider areas where you might be seeking life apart from Christ. Surrender these to Him today, asking for a renewed focus on the eternal rather than the temporary. As you do, anticipate the glory that will be revealed when Christ appears.

Day 3: The Servant's Heart

Reading: John 13:1-17

Devotional: Jesus, knowing His divine authority, chose to wash His disciples' feet. This powerful act of service challenges our notions of leadership and greatness. How can you embody this servant's heart in your spheres of influence? Identify one practical way you can serve someone today, especially someone you might consider "beneath" you. Remember Jesus' words: "Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." Ask God for opportunities to demonstrate His love through humble service.

Day 4: Taking Every Thought Captive

Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Devotional: Our minds are battlegrounds where spiritual warfare often takes place. Paul encourages us to "take every thought captive to obey Christ." Today, practice awareness of your thought patterns. When negative, prideful, or disobedient thoughts arise, consciously surrender them to Christ. Replace them with truths from Scripture. This process of renewing your mind is crucial for spiritual growth and transformation. Ask the Holy Spirit to

heighten your awareness of thoughts that don't align with God's truth and to empower you to bring them into submission to Christ.

Day 5: Staying Within God's Boundaries

Reading: Proverbs 4:20-27

Devotional: "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." This proverb reminds us of the importance of guarding our hearts and staying within the boundaries God has set for us. Reflect on the "halo collar" analogy from the sermon. How can remaining close to the Master (Jesus) keep you safe and fulfilled? Consider areas where you might be straying beyond God's appointed boundaries for you. Ask for wisdom to discern these limits and for the strength to joyfully remain within them, trusting that God's boundaries are for your protection and flourishing.