

An Exposition of the 2nd Epistle of Peter

“The Eternal Glory of Christ”

2 Peter 3:18b

Theme: Ascribe glory to Christ both for Who He is and for what He has done - before it is forced upon you!

I. WE ASCRIBE HIM GLORY BECAUSE OF HIS AUTHENTICITY

A. He Is Eternal – *John 1:1-2*

1. The Lord Jesus Christ is God – demonstrated by the attribute that He possesses called “eternity.”
2. There was never a time when Jesus came into being – He existed prior to the incarnation and will exist throughout all time – upon whom our own existence depends.

B. He Is Equal with the Father – *Philippians 2:5-6*

1. We are called to ascribe glory to Jesus Christ, not as a rival to God, but equal to God.
2. Jesus not only declared that He and the Father are One, but His equality with God is declared from eternity past:
 - a) He was in the “form of God” – that is what is manifested outwardly was the internal reality of deity.
 - b) He did not think that equality was a thing to be clutched at or grasped after – He already had it.
 - c) He is not an inferior to the Father, nor is He a lesser god.
3. We are called upon to ascribe glory to Jesus because of His authenticity – He is God – thus, we are able to fulfill our purpose when we do so – cp. *Revelation 4:11*.

II. WE ASCRIBE HIM GLORY BECAUSE OF HIS ACHIEVEMENTS

A. His Past Achievements Demand Glory – *Philippians 2:7-11*

1. Although He was all-glorious in His equality with the Father, Jesus divested Himself of all signs of His eternal glory and was incarnate.
2. He endured all the horrors of the cross, then was declared to be the Son of God (thus vindicating Him of all guilt of the sin for which He suffered) – by means of the resurrection – cp. *Romans 1:4*
3. If God highly exalts Him and gives Him a name that is above every name because of what He accomplished, should we not also?
 - a) God feels so strongly about it, He declares that if we won’t ascribe Him glory for what He has done now, we will be forced to ascribe it to Him in judgment.

- b) Is it any wonder that Peter calls for us to ascribe Him glory – *“both now and to the day of eternity.”*?

B. His Present Achievements Demand Glory

1. Upon completion of His atoning work, Jesus’ achievements were not finished.
2. He immediately embarked upon His current accomplishment – intercession for the believers – cp. **Romans 8:34**
3. Part of this intercessory work is the pleading of our cause as our Advocate in the face of the accusations of Satan – cp. **Revelation 12:10; 1 John 2:1-2**

C. His Pending Achievements Demand Glory

1. What He has already accomplished is enough to elicit from us never-ending glory being ascribed to Him.
2. He is going to return as the conquering King – to recompense men for their deeds – cp. **Matthew 16:27**
3. One of the works that will be judged by Christ in our lives is how much glory He received from us.
4. Do you seek to glorify God through serving Jesus Christ as your chief end and purpose?
5. Are you living to bring glory to Christ in every situation you face? – cp. **1 Corinthians 10:31**