

The Perfect and Complete Assurance that Every Situation in my life is going to turn out both splendid and bright 02 From Glory to Glory

Welcome to the second part of this new series, focusing on the wonderful and glorious truth that Christ is in you, the Hope of glory. Last week we found out that Jesus is inside us. We do not need to climb up into Heaven to find Jesus, nor do we need to create our own personal hell to find Him either. He is right here, right now – no matter what is going on with your life.

Now, what we must do is put this truth inside your hearts, inside our minds, inside our imaginations and dreams, until it starts to give us hope, until it stills the storms inside your heart, until it changes your dreams, gives you hope, and develops an eager and assured expectation in your heart and mind that my life is going to turn out more glorious.

Remember last week, we looked at the Greek word for glory, doxa. We found out it means to shine like the sun. The more you realize Christ lives in you, the more you will shine. It is that simple.

Remember not only is God with you, not only is Christ in you, but He will never leave you or forsake you. Read Hebrews 13.5. The final part of this verse says “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” In Greek, “I will never leave you” is:

Ou Me Aniemi se

The word aniemi means to give up on someone, to let them sink, to turn your back on them. It is originally a sailing term, meaning to let go of the rope someone needs to be rescued. It means to let go of someone who needs your help. It is also the word used to miss someone out when picking teams. The good news is that Jesus never fails to pick you for his team.

Now the one word “aniemi” on its own is enough to say, “I will never leave you”. None of the other words are essential in this sentence. So, what do the other words mean?

“Ou” means not ever. It is the strongest way of saying “not at all, not ever” in Biblical Greek. It is like a very loud and strong “no”. It is first used in the New Testament to let us know that Joseph never knew Mary until after Jesus was born.

“Me” means there are absolutely no exceptions to the statement. This is the word that when Paul uses it, it is translated in the King James as “God forbid”. It means this is something that you would not only never do, but something that you would never imagine or think of doing. It means that doing this is not even a temptation to me, there is no world or situation where it would happen.

And the final word “se” means “you” but because “you” is already in the word “aniemi”, the use of this word means “definitely you”.

You could translate this as:

I will never, not ever, not under any circumstances, with no exceptions will I ever leave, abandon or let go of you, or fail to choose you for my team. Yes, I mean you.

The language is exactly the same for the next part, I will never forsake you. Exactly the same, the word for forsake here is the word Jesus cried out on the cross. It means to leave behind, it means to leave in trouble. You are in trouble and because you are in trouble, I am continuing to advance without you.

Do you grasp the power of this: Jesus was God-forsaken, God-abandoned – so that now – you never have to be. Every time you do something so moronic that God should say “I am going to just leave you there until you sort yourself out” – God has already left and abandoned and forsaken Jesus in your place, and now:

I will never, not ever, not under any circumstances, with no exceptions will I ever forsake you, turn my back on you, or leave you in trouble. I will never move forward without you. Yes, I mean you.

That is awesome news. Jesus is in you, and He is not going anywhere – and you do not need to go anywhere to find Him. Not now and not ever.

This is the truth – Christ is in us. The problem is that we look in the mirror and do not see Jesus now. We look at how we behaved yesterday, we look at our health, our bank balance, our feelings and we think – no Christ is not in us, if He was He has probably run away.

But if we look at the Bible, it is clear – Jesus is inside us and our hope should be the hope of a glorious life, a life of shining like the sun. You are full of glory, and it is inside your spirit.

The question you need to ask is not where I go to get glory – you have it all. The question you need to ask is how I release the glory inside me. How do I get it out?

That is the right question. For the answer read 2 Cor. 3.15-19.

When Moses – which here represents the law – the law comes from Moses (John 1.14) – then the veil is on their heart. This is something that all of us need to realize. You absolutely need to realize this – the law makes it harder to see the glory, not easier.

There are churches you can go to where they preach the law – they preach do this or God will punish you, do this or God will not bless you! Now, there is nothing wrong with preaching “do this” – Paul did it a lot in the New Testament – he said things like submit to your husband, love your wife, walk worthy of your calling, honour your parents, fight the good fight of faith.

But if you tell people that God will love you less, that Jesus will abandon you if you fail to do certain things, that is preaching law. And that law – that will condemn you and cause you to stop dreaming big. That will stop you expecting a life full of glory. We have to understand that the reading of the law, that turning to Moses will not ever lead us into a life of glory.

Now, I do not mean burn the Old Testament, I do not mean stop reading it. There is so much good in there. I mean that whenever you read the Bible, whenever you pray, whenever you do anything – never do it under the law, never do it with the law attached.

Read 2 Cor. 3.5-7. The law is a ministry of death. The ministry of the law kills people. It has a glory, but it is not the glory you want, because you cannot keep up with it. Now start with the first thought here – the law is glorious. The Ten Commandments are glorious. There is a glory in not stealing. There is a glory in not lying. There is a glory in not committing adultery. There is a glory in not having another God. The law has great glory. But the problem with the law is not that it lacks glory, it is that it stands next to you as a standard and you do not in anyway reach up to the standard.

The law is like the sign at the funfair. It has a height on it, and if you do not reach the height requirement you do not get to go on the ride. The law is just like that – it tells you that you need to be that good to get in. It is right, the standard of the law is full of glory, it is an accurate, true, holy standard of what is good. But the only thing the law can do is state over and over that you are not good enough. It reminds you of how short you are!

Looking at the standard cannot make you tall enough to get in. Can you imagine a small child looking at the sign, desperate to go on the roller coaster, trying to get taller just by staring at the sign? It will never work.

The problem with the law is not the law. The law is right, what it tells us to do is holy. The problem is that you do not measure up to it. You have sinned, you have fallen short of the glory of God, and you are too short to get blessed. The glory of the law can only condemn you and assault your dreams and reduce and minimize your hopes. In 2 Cor. 3, Paul describes this work of the law is a veiling or covering of your face. The law covers your face and stops you shining, it stops you even seeing the glory.

The law focuses on your weaknesses, it focuses on your short-ness, it focuses on what you cannot get into, what you are not good enough to do, what you have failed at.

You must stop looking to the law, you must stop looking at the signs. It is good to look at them in the sense of knowing what is good and what is bad, but not as a standard to compare yourself and put yourself down – that will only serve death to you. It will make you focus on sin, on your failings, on your falling short.

And the truth is that you have failed, but you need to get over it, stop looking at the law, stop looking at the commands – they will never help you grow. Some people think the more they beat themselves with the law the more they will get taller. That is stupid. You cannot make a pig fatter by weighing it, you cannot make someone smarter by testing them, you cannot make someone taller by putting a height guide up, you cannot make someone more glorious by telling them the law. It never works. The law covers up the glory. If you are looking to the law, you are like Moses – you have the glory of God shining from your face, but it is covered up and no one will ever see it. Your spirit is full of glory, it is made of the glory of God, but when you look at the law, look at what you are not, think about how much you have failed and fallen short – then you cover up the glory in you.

A blind person could walk into the room – and there is enough glory in any one of us to heal his blindness, to grow him new eyes if necessary. Christ is inside you; all the glory and anointing is inside you. Jesus can make new eyes and heal the blind, and Jesus is

inside you – so that is something you can do. But you are not looking to Jesus, you are looking to your failures, your falling short, and you are covering up the glory inside you. You will say “I cannot possibly do that because I am a failure, I am too short to go on the ride”. The church has been doing this for years and it is utterly unacceptable. We have to be dreaming bigger, we have to be dreaming of glory, we have to be dreaming without the law of Moses. We must take the veil off, and we do that by taking the law out of our hearts and minds.

So, the question is now: where do we look, how do we remove the covering, so the glory can shine from us?

Read 2 Cor. 3.16. The veil is removed when we stop looking to the law and start looking to Jesus. When we turn to Jesus we lose the covering, the glory then starts to shine. Christ is in you.

I am not particularly good at sport. I am no good when it comes to co-ordination and that makes me bad at sport, and there is no sport I am worse at than tennis. I am dreadful. Now imagine I had a tennis lesson with Andy Murray, but he turns up like Moses. He tells me everything I do wrong and tells me I am rubbish at tennis. He tells me what to do, but that will not change anything as I am still rubbish.

There is nothing I can do – I cannot do it. He can yell at me, punish me, tell me again and again, but my nature is limited. That is why the law does not work.

I can tell you again and again – do not tell lies. But you struggle to do it, because your nature is limited. You are too short for the ride!

But now imagine that Andy Murray could somehow build a machine that sets up a psychic link with me, it changes my nature, it changes me at a subconscious level. The ball comes at me and whack I hit it exactly where it needs to go. My nature has changed, I now have the wisdom and power of Andy Murray inside me – I have his glory inside me and I can now do the works that he did. That would be a whole new thing. That changes everything!

The law is merely instructions to do some things and not do other things, but the problem is that it does not change your nature, and you can never meet the standards.

Read Romans 3.23, then read Romans 3.24. From now on, never read Romans 3.23 again without reading Romans 3.24 after! That is the point!

We are made righteous – we are transformed – we are made good enough – we are picked for the team, we are made glorious, we are changed – absolutely for free, for no cost – through the redemptive work of Christ Jesus.

Jesus does not turn up and say right everyone, this is the standard. Hit the ball here, live like this, do this, do not do this. No – Jesus does not turn up like Moses, Jesus is not the law. Read John 1.17. Jesus comes down to earth as a human, then He builds a machine that sets up – not a psychic link – but a spiritual link between us, between all of time and space. Now Jesus is so amazing that He builds this machine out of two pieces of wood.

Jesus knows that if He took you just as you were, and put Himself, with all His glory, inside you that you would be destroyed. You would be devastated and destroyed. So rather than doing that, He builds the machine, and gets nailed to it, and He becomes sin

and death, and in the spirit becomes as sinful and wicked and nasty as you – He falls short of the glory of God, becomes God forsaken, becomes God abandoned. So, then you are put into Him and that works because He is just as wicked as you. In your spirit you are joined with Him, and you die with Him.

When you believed the gospel, your spirit was connected to Jesus – crossed over to Israel, crossed over to Jerusalem, crossed back in time 2000 years and you are placed in Christ just before He dies. You are baptized into Christ, and then He dies with you connected to Him. Then after three days His spirit is resurrected and transformed into life and glory, and because you were inside Him – you get the same glory, the same life, the same power, the same nature of God. You are in Him, He is in you, and you are now full of the goodness and glory of God. You have the same spirit as Christ, you are one spirit with Him and just as He is, so are you in the world.

You are now complete in Christ, and He is in you as the hope of your glory. Jesus never gave you a standard and said, "Live up to this or I kill you". No, that is what Moses did. That is why whenever you look to Moses, you look to the law, you veil the glory and stop it manifesting. We need to step from Romans 3.23 to Romans 3.24 and realize we have been made righteous freely by His work on the cross.

Today, turn your eyes on Jesus, look at Him, look at the cross, look at grace, look at His goodness, look at Him on the cross – utterly God-forsaken so you never have to be, look at the resurrection and realize the truth – you were made alive together with Him and you are now just like Jesus, you are full of glory.

You can do the works that He does. You can do greater works. You have the same glory inside you. It is finished and it is done.

This needs to invade your heart, it needs to get inside your mind, it needs to lift your dreams, it needs to change your altitude, it needs to influence your actions. You have Jesus inside you, your reborn spirit is identical to His reborn spirit.

- You are as righteous as Jesus
- You are as glorious as Jesus
- You are as wonderful as Jesus
- You are as powerful as Jesus
- You are as wise as Jesus
- You can do all the works He can do

If you look at the standard, if you go back to the law, if you start remembering that you have sinned and fallen short and forget that you have been redeemed by Christ and are now totally glory, then you cover your glory and veil it all away.

Your nature is now glory – it is the doxa of God – you shine like the sun; you shine like Jesus. You are royalty, you are the best of the best, you are the most glorious of the most glorious, you can change the world – you are just like Jesus. Take your eyes off Moses and look to Jesus. Look at the glory of Jesus, not the glory of the law.

The glory of the law speaks of your shame. It tells you that you are not good enough, you are going to be left and forsaken, you are going to be abandoned, no one is ever going to pick you for their team.

But the glory of Jesus Christ speaks of your glory! He became shame with your shame so you could be made glorious with His glory. He bore your griefs, He gave you, His glory. He made you a new creation. He made you something glorious! You are one with Jesus, you are one with the hope of glory. He is inside you and will never leave you or forsake you.

You must stop looking to the law, because you are not under law, you are under grace. The law is wonderful, but it will never share its glory with you. It will only ever bring you to shame.

Read Galatians 3.11-13. Living by faith is not the same as living by the law. We must understand this – we cannot live by faith and by law, we need to choose. We are not under law, so we need to live by faith. We are in Christ, not in Moses. We are one with Him, He is in us. And we have been rescued and redeemed from the curse of the law.

I love verse 13 so much. Christ has rescued us from the curse of the law. That sign that says that you are not good enough, you are not going on the ride, you are not getting picked for the team, you cannot pull someone out of a wheelchair, you cannot pray in tongues, you cannot be healthy, you cannot succeed, you cannot walk in your dreams. THAT SIGN HAS BEEN SMASHED TO PIECES BY JESUS. You are rescued from the standard. HOW? By taking that curse on Himself. He took it all on Himself, He bore it all, He became the curse, He became accursed, He became God forsaken, He became God abandoned, He died a sinner's death, He died under the curse.

The machine of the cross put a curse on Jesus. He never broke the law, He never sinned, He was always righteous, but because He took the curse upon Himself with a machine – the most powerful machine ever built, built out of only two bits of wood – we can now enjoy the blessings of Abraham.

Read Galatians 3.14. Jesus Christ took the curse that due us so we could be blessed – not just with any blessing, but the blessing that was on Him. And we access that blessing not by law but by faith.

In other words, when you start to believe that you are blessed like Jesus, it will manifest. When you stop looking at the law, when you stop asking questions like:

- Am I good enough?
- Have I behaved well enough?
- Have I prayed enough?
- Have I done enough?

And just start accepting that He did enough, He was good enough, He behaved well enough, He bore your curse and gave you His blessing for free, and now you are as blessed and as glorious as Jesus, then it will start to manifest. The glory will manifest.

GLORY WILL START TO APPEAR IN YOUR LIFE, money will come to you, healing will flow in your body and into those around you, we will start having services where the GLORY MANIFESTS AND WE CAN SEE IT, SMELL IT, FEEL IT, ARE OVERWHELMED BY IT.

This starts with us unveiling our faces and letting the glory loose. We stop looking at the law, we stop condemnation, we stop turning to Moses, we stop lining ourselves up against a standard, and we start to celebrate what God is doing through us. It means that we realize that Christ is inside us, and that means we should hope for glory. Tomorrow you

should expect greater glory, you should expect more glory, more life, more shining, more authority, more miracles, more increase, more abundance, more confidence, more brilliance, and more everything. A life more Jesus! That is your future. That is your tomorrow. That is your next week, your next month, your 2022, your 2023, your 2030, your 2040. All your life – and then you die and you get even more glory. To die is gain!

Today is the worst day of your life ever, every day in the future will be better. Turn your eyes to Jesus right now.

Many years ago, a number of churches in a town in America decided to have a preaching competition to see which pastor was the best preacher. They decided to all preach one after the other, and they chose a theme – God's Love for Us.

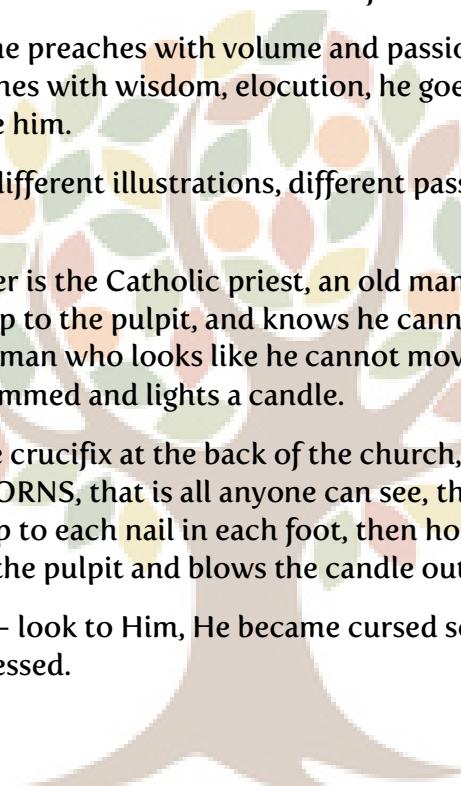
The first guy gets up and he preaches with volume and passion, on how much God loves us. The second guy preaches with wisdom, elocution, he goes into the Greek and Hebrew, and so on. They really like him.

The third and fourth use different illustrations, different passages, we have gone all over the Bible.

The fifth and final preacher is the Catholic priest, an old man who had been a monk for many years. He shuffles up to the pulpit, and knows he cannot compete with the others, people are looking at this man who looks like he cannot move much or preach much. He asks for the lights to be dimmed and lights a candle.

He takes the candle to the crucifix at the back of the church, and without a word holds it up to the CROWN OF THORNS, that is all anyone can see, then he holds it up to each arm in turn, he then holds it up to each nail in each foot, then holds it to the wound in his side. Then he returns to the pulpit and blows the candle out, without saying a word.

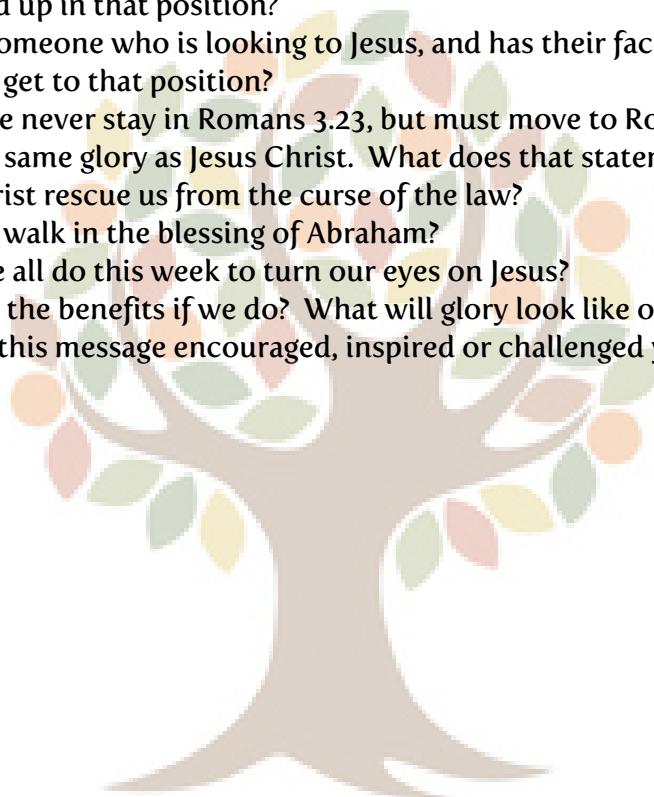
Keep your mind on Jesus – look to Him, He became cursed so you could be blessed. You are not cursed, you are blessed.



Tree of Life Church
where dreams come true

The Perfect and Complete Assurance that Every Situation in my life is going to turn out both splendid and bright 02 From Glory to Glory QUESTIONS

- I. 1. What does the word doxa mean?
2. What does Hebrews 13.5 teach us about whether Jesus will ever leave or abandon us? What have you learned as we studied this verse?
3. What happens when we focus on the law and the standards?
4. What happens when we turn our eyes from the law and start looking to Jesus?
5. Why is the law a ministry of death? How can the law be glorious and still be a ministry of death? What can the law not do?
6. What does someone who is looking to the Law, and has a veil, look like? How does someone end up in that position?
7. What does someone who is looking to Jesus, and has their face unveiled, look like? How can we get to that position?
8. Why must we never stay in Romans 3.23, but must move to Romans 3.24?
9. We have the same glory as Jesus Christ. What does that statement mean to you?
10. How did Christ rescue us from the curse of the law?
- II. 11. How can we walk in the blessing of Abraham?
12. What can we all do this week to turn our eyes on Jesus?
13. What will be the benefits if we do? What will glory look like on your life?
14. What about this message encouraged, inspired or challenged you the most?



Tree of Life Church
where dreams come true