

The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES
with Pastor Greg Formey



What God's Glory Does For You

2 Corinthians 3:18

Sunday, September 7, 2026

When the Old Testament was translated from Hebrew into Greek, scholars hit a major roadblock. They needed a Greek word for glory (Hebrew - *kavad*). The word they picked was **doxa**.

In everyday Greek culture, *doxa* meant reputation, opinion, or what people think about you. If people had good *doxa*, it meant people praised them in public. It was about perception, not necessarily reality.

But when biblical writers used *doxa*, they transformed the word forever. It stopped meaning "what people think" and started meaning "what something actually is".

Our modern word **orthodoxy** is made of two words - "*ortho*" which means right, and *doxa* which means weight). Orthodoxy is not just having correct opinions in one's head; it is giving God His proper weight in your daily life.

GLORY AT ITS HIGHEST

Human beings usually look for glory in events like military victories, the drownings of royalty, and great celebrations. But Jesus turned this all upside down. In the Book of John, He spoke repeatedly about His "hour of glorification". But He was not talking about a golden throne or a crown of jewels. He was talking about the cross.

John 12:23-24

But Jesus answered them, saying, 'The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.'

To The eyes of human beings, the cross looked like shame, weakness, and defeat. But in the kingdom of God, the cross represents glory at its greatest.

When we consider how diamonds are formed deep inside the earth. Carbon atoms are pressed together under thousands of pounds of pressure and heat until they form the hardest, clearest, most indestructible substance known to man. The cross is like that diamond. On it the full weight of God's character was compressed into one single moment in human history.

Jesus absorbed our debt, which was the greatest sacrificial act of love the universe has ever seen.

TRANSFORMATION AT ITS FINEST

After Moses spent time in God's presence on Mount Sinai, his face continued to shine, so Moses put a veil over his face.

Paul explains that under the new covenant, we no longer need a veil.

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The death and resurrection of Jesus gave us unveiled access to God's presence. And when we look at Him, His presence slowly changes us "*from glory to glory*".

The Hebrew is "from weight to weight."

You become heavier - less easily blown around by the trouble of life.

THE DESTINATION AT ITS GREATEST

This transformation will not stop until the whole world is made brand new.

The prophet Habakkuk looked at a world broken by violence, dishonesty, and suffering. But God gave him a promise that shines for all to see.

Habakkuk 2:14

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Think of how water covers the bottom of the ocean. There is not a single dry spot. Every inch of sand, rock, and trench is completely saturated with water. That is an illustration of how the God that once filled the tabernacle in the wilderness and the great temple in Jerusalem will one day fill every square inch of creation.

Conclusion

When you anchor your life in the cross of Jesus, you are living in the heaviest reality in all of creation. May the true weight of who God is press against every hollow place inside us until only what is eternal, real, and full of glory remains.