

Exodus 34:1-16 "The Glory of God"

Intro: Gail Landry Service. Description was that she extremely kind, gracious, patient, fun, gentle, loving, caring, generous; but at the same time would hold the line, straighten you out, guide and direct, because of her concern and care. As I was listening to her character described it reminded me of the description of God Himself in Exodus 34.

THESIS: *In His glorious perfection, He is a Perfectly Kind & Perfectly Just, and the fulness of His glory is fully manifested on the Cross of Jesus Christ.*

I. Kindness

- A. **Merciful. Gracious. Slow to Anger. Abounding in Steadfast Love & Faithfulness.**
- B. **Steadfast Love = Chesed.** Covenant love for his people. **Agape** love. Self-giving.
- C. **Most quoted/cross referenced/alluded to verses in the Bible.**

ILLUSTRATION: Pastoral trick. Have a few key verses/passages. Go-to verse = **Titus3/1Pet5**

- D. **"David's Favorite Verse" / "Life Verse". His "Go-To Verse".**

- E. **Jonah: "I knew you're like this!" merciful/gracious/forgiving...Nineveh!? Really?!**

ILLUSTRATION: Thousands... Math. Generations. Comparison. 4 generations (80years).

Thousands (generations). 20,000 years (forever). **Elon Musk. Trillionaire.** How long to spend \$1Trillion? \$100k/day = 27,379 years. \$1million/day = 2,740 years.

- F. ***There's more Grace in God than there is sin in you. You'll be finished with sin before God's finished showing Mercy. And You'll run out of time before God runs out of Love. Even when you're unfaithful, God remains faithful.***

II. Justice

- A. **By no means clear the guilty.** He doesn't ignore sin or excuse sin.
- B. **Visits the iniquity (3rd & 4th generation).** Generational Curse? Repent & Believe.
- C. **Warning about unfaithfulness and idolatry and compromise. B/c of His love/care.**
- D. **This happens several times over,** and God continues to be kind in response.
- E. **HOW?!**
 - 1. *How can God merciful & gracious and not clear the guilty?*
 - 2. *How can God forgive iniquity and visit iniquity?*
 - 3. *How can God shows steadfast love to generations and curse generations?*
 - 4. *How can God be fully kind and fully just at the same time?*

Transition: *The answer is...*

III. The Cross

- A. **Where Kindness & Justice meet. "Mercy & Justice kiss".**
- B. **The fullness of God's glory is on full display.**
- C. **Rom. 2** God's Kindness is meant to lead you to repentance. His delay is mercy.
- D. **John 12-13.** Father glorify yourself. I have and will do it again. Now will the Son of Man be glorified. God will be glorified in Him. And glorify Him in Himself.
- E. **John 1:14** "We beheld his glory...as of only begotten...**full of grace & truth.**"

ILLUSTRATION: Paul Miller: *"according to Jesus' own words, the glory of God is revealed at the cross. The glory of God is revealed in Jesus' suffering and humiliation. God's glory is made visible in Jesus' complete self-giving...Someone's glory is the essence of who they are (they're full authentic self). At the cross, we see that God's essence is to hold nothing back for himself. He is completely "other," because at the cross, God expends himself completely for us to the point of death. And that's his glory."*

CONCLUSION:

1. **Faith** - How Gospel is received. Believing you're a sinner and believing Jesus is a Savior.
2. **Love** - One of greatest disservices we do to God is not believing He loves us. "The greatest sorrow and burden you can lay on the Father, the greatest unkindness you can do to him is not to believe that he loves you." Father sent Jesus as a gift us His love. We can KNOW.
3. **Soli Deo Gloria** - a) God is glorified in our suffering. b) When we show mercy/grace/love.