

The Glory of God (Series 2): 3

The Glory Dispels Darkness – Part 1

John 11.40

“Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?””

In one of the most darkest periods in the life of Mary and Martha, Jesus told them that if they believed they would see the glory of God.

Lazarus was raised to life – the light shone in the darkness as God’s glory was manifest for them.

Last time we were studying Jesus as the expression of the Glory. And we saw that He is the radiance or brightness of the glory.

Isaiah 60.1-7

“Arise, shine; **For your light has come!** And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the **darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people;** But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.” (vs1-2)

This statement found in vs1 “*your light has come*” is a Messianic prophecy and concerns Jesus.

- Jesus said He Himself was the Light of the World (John 8.12; John 9.5)
- When Jesus came the light of the glory was manifested – the glory was manifest as light to bring comfort to those in darkness.

So let’s focus our thoughts on the effect of light on the darkness.

Whenever you switch on a light the darkness is dispelled. You can walk into a darkened room, so dark that you can’t even see your own hands in front of your face. The second you switch on the light all the darkness is gone.

John 8.12

“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.””

John 12.46

“I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.”

Jesus said that those who believed in Him (have total trust and reliance in Him) would not live and walk in darkness but they would have the light of life. J B Phillips says “... the man who follows me will never walk in the dark but will live his life in the light” (8.12).

The moment we receive Jesus as our Saviour we are taken from the darkness and brought into the light. Peter writes that we have been called “[out of darkness into His marvellous light](#)” (1 Peter 2.9).

Like Paul, you may hear people say that they’ve seen the light referring to their salvation experience. The light has shined in our hearts. We have been transferred from the kingdom of darkness and brought into the kingdom of God where it is all glory – Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 4.6 that “[God hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ](#)”.

Listen to the Amplified translation:

“For God Who said, Let light shine out of darkness, has shone in our hearts so as [to beam forth] the Light for the illumination of the knowledge of the majesty and glory of God [as it is manifest in the Person and is revealed] in the face of Jesus Christ (the Messiah)”

In other words we have been saved from darkness that we might have experiential knowledge of the Glory, just as it was manifest in the life and ministry of Jesus.

Jesus came that we might live in the Glory.

- Sin separated us from the Glory – that’s why the sacrifice for sin had to be made. [“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”](#) Romans 3.23
- Adam and his wife lived in the Glory until they fell. Everything they had and enjoyed was a result of the blessing [or the Glory], just as God had purposed it.

Genesis 2.25

[“And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed”](#)

Why weren’t they ashamed?

- In the garden every created animal had a skin of leather or fur. Man had no need of clothing because they were clothed with the glory of God – it was their covering

[“What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.”](#) Psalm 8.4-5

The word ***crowned*** doesn’t just mean to crown the head but also to encircle, surround, encompass (in order to protect) – the Glory encircled and surrounded them

Genesis 3.7, 10

[“Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.... So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." ”](#)

The moment they sinned, they fell from the glory into darkness – the Glory was no longer their covering and they realised that they were naked.

When they saw their nakedness they were ashamed, fearful and tried to cover up (with leaves) what the glory had once covered.

A world now in darkness had to wait for the revealing of the light, the glory.

Isaiah saw it in the spirit, and prophesied:

“The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined...”

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”

(Isaiah 9.2, 6-7)

“Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.”

(Isaiah 60.1)

Matthew 4.12-17 tells us that Jesus is the fulfillment of that Isaiah prophecy. He was the Glory of God personified. *We saw it last time as we looked at Jesus: The Expression of the Glory*

Jesus went to the cross, as Peter writes (1 Peter 2.24)

“He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness...”

John likens living in righteousness as to living in the light. *“If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin (and unrighteousness)”* 1 John 1.5-9

If we do not live in the light we are not practicing that which Jesus came to die to provide for us – the truth of the Gospel.

To conclude:

- Jesus the personification of the Glory came to restore the Glory that Adam forfeited when he fell, by the sacrifice of His own life.
- Jesus, by His death on the cross, restored us to that original position – life as it was before the fall.
- His death secured the means for us to live in the light of the Glory.