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The Glory of God: John 8

If we want to receive the gift of the grace of God, then we must know truth about Jesus, and respond appropriately.

John 1:14, *We have seen his glory, the glory of the one & only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth*

God's glory is seen in the grace and truth of Jesus:

John 8:1-11, ¹ but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

This story shows sin's consequences if Jesus isn't involved:

- "...caught in adultery..." (v.3) = sin's discovery
- "...made her stand before the group..." (v.3) = sin's shame
- "...stone such women..." (v.5) = sin's punishment
- "...what do you say?" (v.5) = sin's savior

Jesus shows Himself full of grace and truth when dealing with sin:

- "...neither do I condemn you..." (v.11) = grace
- "...Go now and leave your life of sin" (v.11) = truth

When done right, confronting sin has more tears than anger because we recognize we're forgiven sinners.

Jesus offers to be a reliable guide towards the truth:

John 8:12, *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

There are big consequences for not believing in Jesus:

John 8:24, *I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins.*

Therefore, the greatest question we can ask is: who is Jesus?

John 8:25, *"Who are you?" they asked.*

The clarity we need to answer this question is found in the crucifixion:

John 8:28-30, ²⁸ Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he & that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me..."³⁰ even as he spoke, many believed in him.

Those who believe in Jesus are freed from sin:

John 8:31-32, ³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

We don't realize how bad off we really are without Jesus:

John 8:33-36; 39; 44, ³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" ³⁴ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed... ³⁹ "Abraham is our father," they answered... ⁴⁴ You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Jesus shows us our spiritual condition with and without Him:

- ...never been slaves of anyone... (v.33) = spiritual blindness
- ...everyone who sins is a slave... (v.34) = spiritual bondage
- ...if the Son sets you free... (v.36) = spiritual freedom
- "Abraham is our father"... (v.39) = spiritual adoption

Jesus clearly tells the crowd that He is God:

John 8:56-59, ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷ "You are not yet fifty years old," they said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" ⁵⁸ "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" ⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

- This claim of deity from Exodus 3:14 is either blasphemy or true.
- That only leaves four options. Jesus is our Lord, a lunatic, a liar, or a legend.
- Read more at www.go2cornerstone.com/4options

Jesus wants to be our advocate:

1 John 2:1-2, ¹ My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

I imagine Jesus having a conversation like this as our advocate: "Father, I know this one has sinned and violated our commands. He is guilty as charged. However, you have said that my sacrifice is sufficient payment for the debt he owes. My righteousness was applied to his account when he trusted in me for salvation and forgiveness. I have paid the price, so he can be pronounced 'Not guilty.' There is no debt left for him to pay".

If you made a decision to follow Jesus today please text the phrase "journey" to (951)425-4425 so we can support you.