

God's Glory

By Steve Pruitt

Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Exodus 16:10 NKJV

What is the glory of God? On a number of occasions scripture records that the glory of the Lord appeared in a cloud. However, the cloud itself is not the glory of God. God appears in the cloud to hide man from his glory; the cloud is a protection.

The Apostle Paul wrote to his disciple Timothy concerning God. He said ...*who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.* (1 Timothy 6:16) The Apostle John wrote, *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.* (1 John 1:5-6) God is perfect light. Should man in his natural state look at the unveiled glory of God he would die. To define the glory of God we must go further than the light for the light is the brilliance of his glory.

Moses asked God to show him his glory. God replied, *I will make all my goodness pass before you...*(Exodus 33:19) God equated his glory with his goodness. According to Strong's Concordance the Hebrew word for goodness is *tuwb* which means good in the widest sense. It also carries with it the idea of beauty, gladness and welfare. God also proclaimed the name of Jehovah before Moses. Jehovah is the Jewish national name for God and means self-existent and eternal.

When Moses asked to see God's glory he used the Hebrew word *kabowd*. *Kabowd* means weightiness, splendor and honor. God's glory is everything that makes up God; his authority, power, and sovereignty. Thus, the best picture of God's glory can be seen in his Son because he was God in the flesh (John 1:14). The Apostle Paul wrote, *For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.* (2 Corinthians 4:6)

The church is desperate for the glory of the Lord to once again fill the temple. When his glory is made manifest, people change just as the countenance of Moses was changed after being in God's presence. Once we have experienced the wonder of his glory we will be ruined to everything we have known as church.

Do you want to see the glory of God? Is your heart ready to see God's glory? Ask the Lord to give you a heart that desires to see him in all his glory.

NOTES: _____

Scriptures for meditation:

- 1 Kings 8:10-11
- Exodus 33:19-23
- John 2:11
- 1 Corinthians 3:16
- 2 Corinthians 3:18