

Presentation-4S, Give Glory to Him

In this presentation, we now explore the meaning of the expression “give glory to him” in God’s last-days message of mercy.

Again we reiterate that the Creator is none other than God-the-Father, and man is to give glory to God-the-Father and not the so-called “one God comprising the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal persons”. All are to give glory to “him” the Creator, the one true God of the Bible.

The Gospel does not tell us to look to ourselves, but to God. It tells us what we really are, and then says, "Behold your God." We are to accept God's statement of what we really are, which is nothing.* **Paul tells us in 2 Cor 13:5 to ‘examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.’**

Paul challenged everyone to turn a critical eye upon their own selves. Are we in the love of God? Are we the humble, consecrated believer upon whom the Master of the vineyard places a burden for the salvation of souls?* **There is a great work to be done outside the pulpit by thousands of consecrated lay members in the proclamation of the one true God message.** Time and money must not be given to self-gratification but instead consecrated to the work of the Lord in these last-days when God's work in the earth is closing, when the scenes of this earth's history are soon to close.* **Time is rapidly passing, and there is much to be done. Every agency must be set in operation, that God given opportunities may be wisely improved.**

Every follower of Christ can profitably examine his own life each day. We must take time to study the Word of God and to examine self. If we closely search our own heart, and give our self completely to the Lord, then we will better understand how to grasp the hidden things of God.* **If we would be more critical of ourselves, we would be less critical of others.**

Galatians 6:3 states: For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself”

There is always the danger of becoming self-confident, and so filled with self-esteem that we will not realize our own deficiencies, which are many. We do not become more and more capable, but more and more self-important. We have not brought Jesus into our hearts and into our experiences.

Our charge is, "Behold your God!" Where shall we look, in order to see Him? Look at everything that He has made, at the heavens, the seas, the earth, nature and all that is in them. When we see ourselves, as we must every day, let it be only to recognize the fact that* **"in Him we live, and move, and have our being"** as recorded in Acts 17:28. Through the agencies of nature, God is working, day by day, hour by hour, moment by moment, to sustain us, to keep us alive, to build up and restore us ... The power working through these agencies is the power of God-the-Father through His only Begotten son Jesus.

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Sister White warned in 2 Testimonies for the church vol 2 p144.1 "There is great necessity for close self-examination in the light of God's Word; let each one raise the inquiry: "Am I sound, or am I rotten at heart? Am I renewed in Christ, or am I still carnal at heart, with a new dress put on the outside?"

Let no flesh glory in man, but instead, "Fear God, and give glory to Him," "and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

This point is confirmed in Jeremiah 9:23 "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: 24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD" Once again notice the vital importance of having the essential knowledge of God, that is His character which is nothing less than lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, attributes that all who are to enter into His inheritance must possess.

We are not to glory in self that we may "understand and know me", but rather to understand and know the one true God of the Bible. To claim for one-self honor for success is to dishonor God by turning men's eyes from God to the human instrument, and to exalt man above God.*

2 Cor 10:17 "But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord"

In contrast, the Creator is by the very nature of things infinitely greater than all created things. Only by His greatness can anything exist; and whoever gladly recognizes and acknowledges that greatness is by it exalted. When man exalts himself, everything is reversed and in disorder. It is necessary that the Father's rightful place in the universe should be recognized; otherwise confusion would always reign, such as when a false god-the-eternal-spirit is worshipped in the place of the one true God.*

Again we reiterate Sister White's counsel in Ministry of Healing page 425.2 "The knowledge of God as revealed in Christ is the knowledge that all who are saved must have. It is the knowledge that works transformation of character. This knowledge, received, will re-create the soul in the image of God. It will impart to the whole being a spiritual power that is divine."

God is infinitely greater than man, yet He does not despise man on that account.*

Psalms 138:6 states "Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly"

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So much does God regard man, that He gave Himself to redeem us. He gave Himself for us, not for what we are, but for what He is able to make of us. We are but nothing, yet God is able to make that which is not and bring to naught that which is.* **As stated in 1 Cor. 1:28 "... and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are"**

He tells us these things that we may know how easily He can do what He Will with us. And this is for our comfort. Who is a God like unto our God?

Is 43:7 states "Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him"

Here we have the last-days remnant of the Lord, those whom He gathers out of every country, who is called individually by His name, and whom He has created for His glory.

At the investigative judgment God shall blot out their iniquities, and poured His Spirit upon them like floods, which they shall gladly received, so that they may go forth and loudly testify of Him and His glory.

This scenario is described figuratively in* **Isaiah 44:2-5 "Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen.**

3 For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

4 And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses.

5 One shall say, I am the LORD'S; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the name of Israel"

God speaks to each one individually, and tells each one not to be afraid. He is the first and the last, the one true God, and each one individually as His end-time witness is not to be afraid to lift up the voice with strength, and to declare His name and glory.*

Is 43:10 "Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me"

In Isaiah 43:1 God said "I have called thee by thy name thou art mine" We are so glad to know that God calls each one individually. He calls me personally by my name. He has established a close intimate relationship between Himself and me, and we call each other by name. I am on the roll-call of heaven, the Lamb's book of life. My name is written there, and it will stay there as

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long as I go on giving glory to Him, for He says even of the stars in* **Isaiah 40:26** **“Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth”**

"Thou art Mine." God says it, and I believe it, for I am honoring Him now and believe His statements. I am not seeking glory for myself, for His is "the kingdom and the power and the glory," and I am His, and in Him I have it all. So that when I keep the glory from Him, I wither like the grass, but when I give all glory to Him, He crowns me with glory and honor.

In a special way in ancient times the Jews were to be God's witnesses. As a nation they were to be a living testimony that the Lord is God. God's last-days faithful remnant today has a highly privileged role, a role that Israel of old did not fulfill.

As applied to the end-times, Peter here declares that God has now assigned the privileges and responsibilities of the Jewish nation to the His last-days faithful remnant, not as a national group, but as a people called out of every nation to constitute one spiritual entity, one great family, throughout the world.*

As confirmed in 1 Peter 2:9 **“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light”**

God through Isaiah said in Isaiah 44:20 **" He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside”**

The proud and boastful does not know that there is nothing real but God, and that in Him all things hold together. A deceived heart is what makes men so proud and boastful. This is the root of all self-confidence and vain-glory.

Now if a man recognizes this truth, and trusts in the Lord wholly, yielding his body as the temple of the Holy Spirit, he will be "filled with all the fulness of God," and there will be substance and reality to him and his words. He will be able to speak with authority. It is God that worketh in him, and it is the Holy Spirit that speaks in him.

But when a man who is nothing to begin with, rejects the source of all life and wisdom, and trusts in the idols which he himself has made, and which must of necessity be nothing, it follows that the whole thing is but emptiness.

His words and deeds are wind, and he himself is but chaff. His own testimony carries him away; or, as clearly stated in* **Isaiah 1:31** **“the strong is tow, and his work is a spark, so that he has nothing but destruction in himself”**

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Jute when ready for spinning is highly inflammable. Men who consider themselves strong and independent of God will be consumed like the tow or jute in the last-days' unquenchable fire that devours the wicked.

God's power to save, to make something for eternity out of men who are nothing, is the mighty power that will shake the heavens and the earth when the Lord comes to save His people. All that power is even now exerted to save man, and will save them, if only they will but trust in Him.*

Sister White wrote in Ministry of Healing page 435.1 "As we learn more and more of what God is, and of what we ourselves are in His sight, we shall fear and tremble before Him"

The desire for self-exaltation was the cause of the downfall of Lucifer. Before his fall he was the most beautiful and the wisest of all the created angels of heaven. He took surpassing pride in the honor God had bestowed upon him, but sought still greater glory for himself. He coveted Christ's honor and glory, to be "who is like God" which is what the name Michael means. He aspired to be like Michael in position, power, and glory, but not in character. He desired for himself the homage the angelic host gave to the only begotten son of God. Only a created being, he sought honor due to Christ. Instead of rendering to the Father supreme reverence, he sought for himself first place in those affections. Let this be an object lesson to all.*

Take home message

Lucifer was envious and jealous of the only begotten son of God. Why should Christ be honored before him? His covetousness led to his fall, a highly exalted covering Cherub in heaven who is next in honor to God's dear Son. Herein is a sad object lesson on the dangers of covetousness, of self-exaltation, and of self-glorification. So, fear God and give glory to Him.*

"In Manuscript 90-1910.4 Sister White wrote "... Satan, knowing that CHRIST HAD THE FIRST PLACE NEXT TO GOD, began to insinuate to the angels that he should be next to God. His great beauty and exalted position made him feel that he was not receiving due honor in being second to Christ. Therefore he would suggest this to the angels, and this suggestion [began] to be communicated to the heavenly angels, and finally [it was] brought before God that Lucifer was the one who should be next to God. Thus the seed was sown and the result was that angels sympathized with Lucifer; next, there was war in heaven. Lucifer's beautiful appearance was constantly exalted and the Lord God of heaven [saw] that Lucifer and his party were very strong against Christ."

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“In Lt 55-1903.15 Sister White wrote “...Lucifer coveted THE HONOR AND GLORY GIVEN TO CHRIST. He became so self-exalted that he supposed that he could do anything he desired to do because of his high position as covering cherub, and he tried to obtain for himself THE POSITION GIVEN TO CHRIST. But Lucifer fell. He was cast out of heaven; and now he works on human minds, tempting them to follow in his footsteps. He strives to fill minds with feelings of self-exaltation and to lead them to dishonor God by turning from their allegiance to the truth and inventing many things not after God’s order”

As recorded in Col 3:5 Covetousness is idolatry and this will inevitably lead to the transgression of the first three commandments of the Decalogue.

In Ex 20:17 the tenth commandment prohibits covetousness “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour’s”

In summary,* **through covetousness a wrong thought entertained promotes a wrong desire, which in time gives birth to a wrong action.**

It is our hope and prayer that this short presentation may lead some, peradventure many, to a deeper appreciation of the meaning to “give glory to him,” to give all glory to the one true God through a transformed character unto His likeness, and not to a false god-the-eternal-spirit.

Amen