

Assurance of Salvation  
Part 27

Love for God  
(#8)

**"Love for God"**

**Evidence of salvation**

**"You must love the Lord your God**  
**– with all your heart,**  
**– with all your soul,**  
**– with all your mind,**  
**– and with all your strength."**

- Jesus (Mark 12:30)

In other words:

**"You must love God with**  
**all your 'everything.' "**

Three aspects of GENUINE  
love for God:

#1 – Delight in who God is and what he does.  
 = If we aren't clear on this issue,  
 none of the rest matters.

#2 – A desire for God to be glorified in all things.  
 = We start this today

#3 – Gratitude for what he has done for us.  
 = This will be next

ASPECT #2 – A desire for God to be  
glorified in all things

• We want all things to be done in a way that:

- honors God.
- reflects his goodness and grace.

**100%**

• This is closely related to what we say in "the Lord's prayer":  
**"Your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."**

**GLORIFIED:**

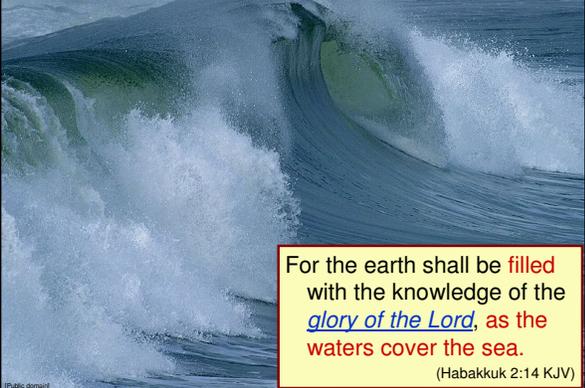
- By all things that happen
- Everywhere
- By all people (beginning with us)

} Our desire & Our prayer\*

**100%**

\*Note: Praying for God to be glorified does not necessarily mean we will understand everything that happens!

IT **WILL** HAPPEN – God **WILL** be glorified



For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

(Habakkuk 2:14 KJV)

IT **WILL** HAPPEN – in the **future**

- Those who refuse to honor God now will do so later.

... at the name of Jesus, **everyone** will kneel, **everyone** in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth. And **everyone** will acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glorious praise of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:10-11)

IT **WILL** HAPPEN – in the **future**

- The pretensions of atheists and those who worship false gods will come to an end.

All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.

(Psalm 86:9-10 NIV)

**BUT WHY WAIT??**

God gives us the opportunity to glorify him **now!**

★ Those who love God *want* to do so. ★

**HOW can we glorify him NOW?**

**TWO WAYS:**

- 1) By our actions**  
– What we do.
- 2) By our attitude**  
– Our acceptance of what God brings into our lives.

As *always*, God's sovereignty and **human responsibility** **WORK TOGETHER**

- 1) Actions** = What we choose to do (human responsibility).
- 2) Attitude** = Our response to "PROVIDENCE" (a manifestation of God's sovereignty).

## "Providence"?

- The act of God "providing" for us. (simplified definition)
- It refers to God accomplishing his purposes through whatever happens in creation.
  - God uses the laws of nature (which he created), "time and chance," etc.



This is the *normal* way God works in our lives.

– He doesn't always have to perform miracles!

## Can we understand Providence?

- Sometimes YES (at least in part).
- Sometimes, things will *not* make sense until the Day of Justice.

In a sinful world, pain and suffering *must* occur.

God will use that pain and suffering to accomplish good for his people.

But that good will not always be visible to us in this present life.

HERE is the reason we can accept what God brings into our lives:

We know that in all things God works to accomplish good in the lives of those who love him, whom he has called according to his plan. (Romans 8:28)



This **ONLY** applies to those who love God (as the Bible defines it).

- Anyone else gets *no such guarantee*.

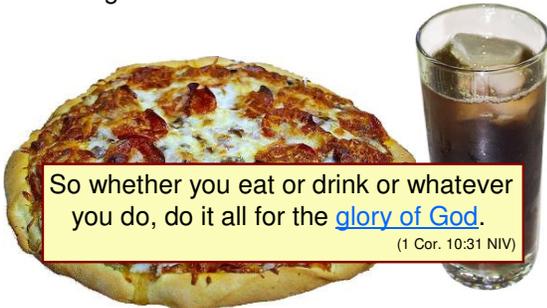
## Glorifying God, METHOD #1

1) **By our actions**  
– Human responsibility.



2) **By our attitude**  
– Our response to God's PROVIDENCE (a manifestation of his sovereignty).

We **CHOOSE** to do things in a way that brings honor to God.



So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the **glory of God**.

(1 Cor. 10:31 NIV)



Does this really mean "everything"?

**YES!!**

That's why the verse includes: **"whatever you do"!!**

- But for this to be possible, we must have...

... a **love** that is based on an **understanding** of the truth (i.e., the Bible)

The Apostle Paul explains it in one of his prayers:

And this is my prayer:  
that your **love** may abound more and more  
in **knowledge** and depth of **insight**, ...  
(Philip. 1:9 NIV)

- For what purpose? (Why does he pray this?)

... so that you  
may be able to **discern what is best** and  
may **be pure and blameless** until the day of  
Christ,  
**filled with the fruit of righteousness** that  
comes through Jesus Christ—  
**to the glory and praise of God.**

(Philip. 1:10-11 NIV)

## How to Do It

(We just happened to have the recipe on hand!)

Favorite Recipe For: **LOVE based on TRUTH**  
From the Kitchen of: **God**

**Ingredients:** 1 Bible 1 Life

**Directions:** 1) Find out what the Bible says.  
2) Apply it to the way you live and the way  
you interact with others.  
3) Continue until life is done.

## What does the Bible say?

- 1) There are many direct **commands and prohibitions**.
  - The context will show us what ways they may apply to us.
2. There are many **principles and values** that can apply to a variety of situations.
  - Scripture also shows us how to respond when different values seem to contradict.



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## What does the Bible say?

3. There is **guidance** for the daily routines of life.
  - The book of Proverbs teaches us the differences between wisdom vs. moral folly, and understanding vs. stupidity.



## What does the Bible say?

4. There are many things that involve "**freedom of choice**," provided that the choices:
  - Do not control you, or cause *anyone* (including you) to sin.
  - Are beneficial (to you or to others).
  - Are compatible with your circumstances, gifts and abilities, etc.



