

Assurance of Salvation
 Part 84

Glorifying God:

Conclusion – Duty, Love,
 Evidence

The **BIG** question:

WHY???

Why do you want people
 to go to heaven? *

- Yourself?
- Family members?
- Friends?
- Acquaintances?

* (Actually, there will also be a new *earth* – 2 Peter 3:13.)

So that they can feel good in eternity?

↓

Or so that God will be glorified?

TODAY: We have reached the

Conclusion

to our topic:

"Glorifying God!"

To
VALUE
WORSHIP
LOVE
OBEY
 Him!

- A **duty**
- An expression of **love**
- **Evidence** of salvation

Looking back...

On several occasions,
 we've seen that God made
 us for a purpose.

Made for ME?

Sorry, we said
 "purpose," not
 "porpoise."

WHY did God make us?

Here is one of the ways that Christians have answered this question:

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?
 A. Man's chief end is to **glorify** God,
 and to enjoy him forever.
 (Westminster Shorter Catechism)

Is it a command? **YES!** It is our **DUTY.**

O nations of the world, recognize the Lord,
recognize that the Lord is glorious and
strong.

*Give to the Lord the **glory** he deserves!*

1 Chron. 16:28-29a (NLT)

I glorify God
too, but in a
different way!



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GLORIFYING GOD

The duty of ALL people.

- **God's people**
 - They love to fulfill their duty.
- **The Devil's people**
 - They don't love to fulfill their duty.

KEY ISSUE: People are NOT naturally willing to glorify God.

BY NATURE:

*All people love **self** and their **own will**
more than they love God and his will.*

- **NO unsaved person (or church-going fake)**
 - would make "glorifying God" his goal or way of life.
- **ONLY a person controlled by the Spirit of God**
 - would want to do this – and ALL people controlled by the Spirit are saved.

Glorify God?? The UNSAVED response
(including the church-going fakes)

- They may:
 - Refuse to obey Scripture, or simply ignore it.
 - Redefine "glorifying God" and invent their own methods of doing so.
 - Make excuses for not doing so.
 - Have lots of talk, but lack the action.
- But whatever they do... glorifying God just won't happen. They won't do the "real thing."

Those controlled by the sinful nature
cannot please God.

Romans 8:8 (NIV)

Glorify God?? The SAVED response

- They:
 - See their obligation (duty) to glorify God.
 - Want to glorify God.
 - Actually do glorify God. (It's not just mere talk.)
 - Find satisfaction in doing so.
 - Want to kill the impulses of the flesh (sinful nature) that dishonor God.
- **WHY?** Because they are controlled by the Spirit of God – the Spirit of **Glory!**

... the Spirit of **glory**—the Spirit
of God—is resting on you.

1 Peter 4:14b (GW)

THE 100% CONTRAST!

- **THOSE WHO DON'T LOVE GOD:** (= unsaved)
 - Refuse... redefine... ignore... excuses... empty talk...
 - For whatever reason, glorifying God just doesn't happen.
 - They are controlled by their sinful nature.
- **THOSE WHO DO LOVE GOD:** (= saved)
 - Desire... delight... satisfaction... suppressing sin...
 - The end result is that God is glorified!
 - They are controlled by the Spirit of God.

THE 100% CONTRAST!

UNSAVED	SAVED
<p>This contrast shows that the "doing" of this duty (and the love that goes with it) is <i>evidence of salvation</i>.</p> <p>ONLY SAVED PEOPLE DO IT!</p>	
<p>NO LOVE FOR GOD AND DUTY</p> <p>GOD IS NOT GLORIFIED</p>	<p>LOVE FOR GOD AND DUTY</p> <p>GOD IS GLORIFIED</p>

IF WE LOVE GOD: **Glorifying God will be our #1 GOAL.**

Even though it *won't* always be our #1 center of attention.

- It will be the habit or lifestyle that influences everything else.
- Doing things contrary to our #1 GOAL will *not* be our way of life.



It's like travelling on a journey.

- We may think about various other things along the way.
- But in all that we do, we are still directing ourselves toward the final goal.



Thought bubbles: Beautiful scenery! I can't wait to see my family! Watch out for crazy drivers! Stop for lunch in an hour! Obey all traffic signs! Need to get gas at the next exit!

And if you get a flat tire, you fix it and continue on your journey.

IF WE LOVE GOD: **This goal will influence all that we do and don't do.**

Our goal: To replace OLD conduct with NEW.

... you have stripped off your *old evil nature* and all its wicked deeds.

In its place you have clothed yourselves with a *brand-new nature* that is continually being renewed as you **learn** more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you.

Col. 3:9b-10 (NLT)

★ It includes a willingness to **LEARN**, so that we can *know* how to live! ★

The OLD: Our "DON'T DO" List:

We will **learn** to *avoid* things that are wasteful, foolish, sinful, etc.

The NEW: Our "DO" List:

We will **learn** to see things God's way.

THEREFORE:

- We will become concerned about:
 - The spiritual condition of ourselves and others.
 - The sin & suffering in the world.
- We will want to:
 - **Stop** wasting our lives on frivolous, wasteful things.
 - **Start** using our lives for things that really matter!

#1 Example **It will affect our use of TIME** (especially our "free time").

- How can a follower of Jesus consume his time with:
 - Frivolous, wasteful things?
 - Mindless entertainment and partying?
 - Laziness and constant goofing off?
 - Activities that do not honor God?
- **This is NOT** following Jesus!
 - **God saves people out of this!**

Instead... As an expression of **LOVE...**

- Our goal will be to live for God at ALL times.
 - Whether time by ourselves, or time with others.
 - Whether the activity involves work or leisure.
- We will also want to set aside time when we can devote our attention to the God we love.
 - As a group, when possible.
(For most Christians, this would be on Sunday.)

OUR TIME belongs to God.
A follower of Jesus will not be a **THIEF**.

#2 Example It will affect our use of **ALL** that we have and are.

- We know that ALL we have belongs to God.
 - All our possessions, resources, abilities.
 - Whether we have little or much.
- How could a follower of Jesus deliberately choose to waste such things?



- This is **NOT** following Jesus!
 - **God saves people out of this!**

Instead... As an expression of **LOVE...**

- Our goal will be to use it ALL to glorify God.
 - In whatever way possible, for our own good, and for the good of our neighbor.
 - Also directly used in God's work, and for the salvation and spiritual growth of others.
- How could a follower of Jesus NOT want to do this?

ALL THAT WE HAVE belongs to God.
A follower of Jesus will not be a **THIEF**.

#3 Example It will affect our **MORAL CONDUCT**.

- How can a person "follow" Jesus, yet continually prefer sin over Jesus?

Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it?
Romans 6:2b (NLT)

- As our love for God and duty increases, the power of sin over us decreases.
 - Change is a process of replacing one thing with another. (You can't just "stop" sinning without "starting" something in its place.)

Instead... As an expression of **LOVE...**

- Though we realize we aren't "sinless," we will choose to "sin less."
- We all have "besetting sins" – those sins that we struggle with on a frequent basis.

But when we fix our eyes on Jesus, living for the devil loses its appeal!



God offers us **GOLD**;
the devil offers us **FOOL'S GOLD!**

DUTY ... LOVE ... EVIDENCE

- A follower of Jesus will **LOVE**:
 - **God**, the one who made us.
 - **Duty**, the purpose for which we were made.
- In fact: Fulfilling our DUTY to God is an expression of LOVE for God!

ACCORDING TO JESUS:

"If you love me, you will obey what I command."
John 14:15 (NIV)

HOW COULD IT POSSIBLY NOT BE THIS WAY?

DUTY ... LOVE ... EVIDENCE

When this LOVE is in us:

- It will influence our:
 - **DESIRE** to do our duty (regardless of what others do).
 - **MOTIVE** for doing it (a reflection of a changed heart, rather than a pursuit of personal gain).
- It will increase our:
 - **HATRED** for sin and **POWER** over it.
- Ultimately, **GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED.**

HOW COULD IT POSSIBLY NOT BE THIS WAY?

DUTY ... LOVE ... EVIDENCE

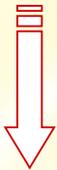
- Glorifying God in this way is our **DUTY**.
- We can do it only because the Spirit of God gives us a **LOVE** to do it.
- Therefore, when glorifying God is our goal in life, it is **EVIDENCE** of salvation.

Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

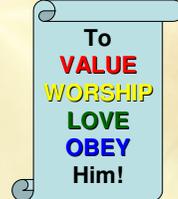
1 John 3:3 (NIV)

YOUR MISSION: ASK

ASK THE
BIG QUESTION!



To GLORIFY God...

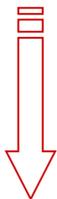


The **BIG** question:

WHY???

Why do you want to be saved?

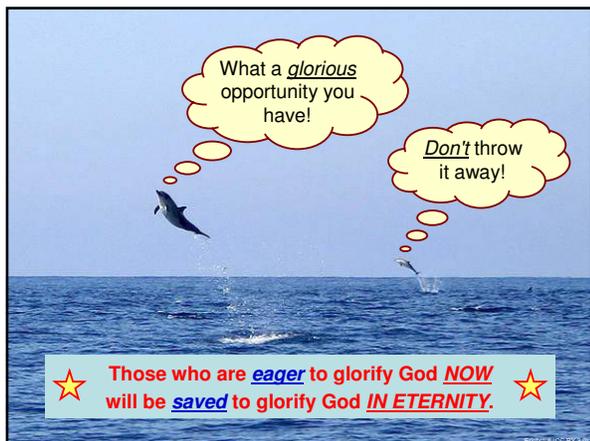
So that YOU can feel good in eternity?



Or so that God will be glorified by what you do?

DO YOU WANT TO BE SAVED...

- **For personal gain:** Because of the rewards it brings?
 - This is a self-serving attitude.
 - This is the OLD (sinful) nature's way!
- **OR** –
- **For a better reason:** Because you love God and duty?
 - This is a God-and-neighbor-serving attitude.
 - This is the NEW (Spirit-led) nature's way!



Credits (1)

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