

Assurance of Salvation
Part 80

Glorifying God:

HOW to glorify God (5)

"WE MUST GLORIFY GOD."
(It's a *moral* obligation.)
God's people *delight* in doing so.

Today, PART 5 of:
HOW to glorify God!

ISSUES TO COVER →

- The REMINDER
- 3 more "HOW's"

The REMINDER!

"Glorifying God"
involves **VALUES / CHOICES.**

- **IF** your values/choices do not agree with Scripture, **THEN** you are **not glorifying God.**
(This means you are not following Jesus.)
- **IF** this characterizes the way you live, **THEN** you are **not saved.**

THE "HOW" LIST
beginning with #9
(We've already looked at the first 8.)

"How do we glorify God?"

9) WE GLORIFY GOD when we have a **joyful attitude** in all circumstances.


👉 (Even in bad circumstances!) 👈

- An attitude based on an *inner* peace, though trials and the "storms of life" may surround us.

Is this really possible?
For a follower of Jesus: YES!

This does NOT mean "put on a happy face"!

- PRETENSION does *not* glorify God!
- It's OK to admit the pain and suffering!
- But because of *God's work inside you*, you can see *beyond* the pain and suffering.



Consider this example:

The apostles left the high council **rejoicing** that God had counted them worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of Jesus.

Acts 5:41 (NLT)

But it wasn't just the *apostles* who rejoiced.

You greatly rejoice in this [salvation], even though you have to suffer various kinds of trial for a little while, ...

1 Peter 1:6 (ISV)

Another example:

A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods.

They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn't escape.

So he took no chances but put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks.

Around midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, ...

Acts 16:22-25a (NLT)

In trials, we can rejoice in what God is doing.

- What he is doing for **us**.

Not only so, but we also **rejoice** in *our sufferings*, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)

- What he is doing for **others**.

Now I **rejoice** in what was *suffered for you*, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.

Col. 1:24 (NIV)

The foundation for such an attitude:

What God has done *in* and *for* us.

- God has justified us; he has adopted us.
- He is with us, and nothing (and no one) can stand between us and God.

The LORD is on my side, I am not afraid!
What can people do to me?

Psalms 118:6 (NET)

WE CAN BUILD OUR LIFE ON THIS FOUNDATION!

No matter what happens, we still have God!

- This is the *only* thing we *cannot* lose in this life.

Then [Job] fell to the ground in worship and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
may the name of the Lord be praised."

Job 1:20b-21 (NIV)

How do we get this joy? GOD is the ultimate source.

- God's Word gives us encouragement.

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and *the encouragement of the Scriptures* we might have hope.

Romans 15:4 (NIV)

- The Holy Spirit gives us joy.

So you received the message with **joy** *from the Holy Spirit* in spite of the severe suffering it brought you.

1 Thes. 1:6a (NLT)

Yet God also uses PEOPLE!

- **TRIALS** are a normal part of life.

Yet man is born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upward.
Job 5:7 (NIV)

- God can use the trials we experience to make us able to encourage others!

[God] comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When others are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.
2 Cor. 1:4 (NLT)

As always, God's sovereignty & human responsibility go together!

RESPONSIBILITY

- We have the obligation to obey.
- God's people are willing to do so. They want to grow in their obedience.

SOVEREIGNTY

- As we grow in our obedience, we realize that God is working in us to make it happen.

¿What does this have to do with rejoicing?

Human responsibility: Things we must do.

- When going through trials, we must do this:

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, **rejoice!**
Philip. 4:4 (NET)
- To get there, we must replace anxiety with trust. (We can't just "stop" something, but must replace it with something else.)

Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, in every situation, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God.
Philip. 4:6 (NET)

God's sovereignty: The part he does.

- As we obey Scripture, we discover that our heart attitude begins to change!

And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Philip. 4:7 (NET)

? FINAL QUESTIONS ABOUT REJOICING: ?
What is YOUR attitude? WHY?

10) WE GLORIFY GOD when we stand up for God's truth.

God's truth is glorious, and he entrusts us with it!

When we are advocates for his truth, God is glorified!

TO "ADVOCATE": To promote it, defend it, encourage others to accept it, live for it, etc.

DO YOU REALIZE...

- God commands you to grow in the truth?

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:18a (NIV)

- God uses his truth to make you holy?

[Jesus prayed,] "Sanctify* them by the truth. Your word is truth."

John 17:17 (ISV)

* ("Sanctify" means "make holy.")

- You need God's truth in you, if you don't want to sin:

I have hidden your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:11 (NLT)

- You need God's truth for salvation!
– Without it, you cannot be saved.

And it is this Good News that saves you if you firmly believe it—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.

1 Cor. 15:2 (NLT)

- Jude understood the need to stand up for the truth:

– Because without the foundation of truth, you have no basis for salvation!

What he wanted to do

What he needed to do FIRST

Dear friends,
although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share,
I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith* that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

Jude 1:3 (NIV)

* ("The faith" = the truths about God, people, salvation, etc.)

What is YOUR attitude toward God's truth?

- What do YOU advocate?
- What are YOU willing to stand up for?

- People are willing to stand up for all sorts of things...trivial pursuits, religious activities, even frivolous or sinful conduct!

Are you willing to stand up for the truth – to "contend for the faith"?

11) WE GLORIFY GOD when we give praise and thanks to God.

I will praise God's name in song
and glorify him with thanksgiving.

Psalms 69:30 (NIV)

Tell of his splendor, power and greatness!

Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Psalms 150:2 (NIV)

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

Psalms 29:2 (NIV)

Do it in all circumstances!

Be joyful always; pray continually; **give thanks in all circumstances**, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

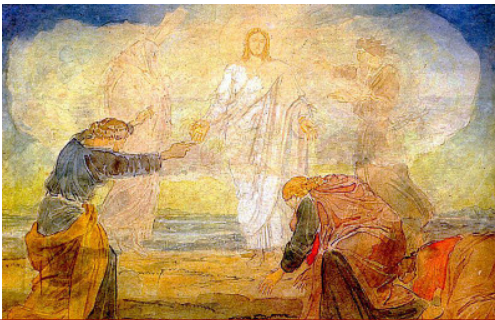
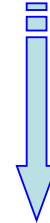
1 Thes. 5:16-18 (NIV)

- **IN** all circumstances, not necessarily **BECAUSE** of them.

↳ ("Be joyful always" fits with "HOW #9" (= about rejoicing).)

Why? Because he is worthy!

- **Do we need any other reason?**
(Of course, there are *many* other reasons we could give.)



"**Worthy** is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Rev. 5:12b (NIV)

YOUR MISSION: Consider

(And make "life adjustments" if necessary.)

What is YOUR attitude toward:

- ✓ The Word of God?
(**HOW #10**: Standing up for God's truth.)
- ✓ What God is doing in your life?
(**HOW #9**: Rejoicing in all circumstances.)
- ✓ God himself?
(**HOW #11**: Praise and thanks to God.)

THE "GLORY" MANIFESTO

- **I will rejoice, because God is in control of my life.**
 - Though I often fail to understand what he is doing.
- **I will stand up for God's truth.**
 - It is the foundation for all that I am in Christ.

THE "GLORY" MANIFESTO

- **I will be filled with praise and thanks to God.**
 - Not only for what he does, but because of who he is.

Credits (1)

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