



-- Introduction

-- Vacation Photos

-- Mount Vernon Photos

-- In Washington's office at Mount Vernon: Catching a glorious glimpse in my mind's eye of Washington at work in that room.

**Big Idea: All true glory is centered in Christ.**

-- Review of Luke 9

-- Luke 9:1-17 – Big Idea: “For all that God asks, He gives all that Christ is, and that’s more than enough.”

-- Luke 9:18-27 – Big Idea: “Authentic Christian living always chooses the cross over the crowd.”

**1. All true glory ensues in Christ.**

A. Ensure = “begin, commence, initiate”

B. v. 27-28 – “*I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.*’ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray.”

C. In all three Synoptic Gospels, this event (the Transfiguration) always follows Peter’s first confession of Jesus as the Christ, Jesus’ first passion prediction, and Jesus’ instructions about true discipleship. (Matthew 16-17, Mark 8-9)

1. Although there is often great confusion over verse 27, it seems rather clear that Jesus is referring to the transfiguration.

2. Though Jesus spoke of His suffering, He was about to give the disciples a glimpse of the glory that His death and resurrection would make possible.

- D. Peter's confession of faith in Christ grants him the grace to see God's glory.
1. The situation remains the same for us today: Sincere confession of Jesus Christ as Lord enters us into His glory.
  2. Hebrews 11:6 – *“Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”*
  3. 1 Corinthians 2:9 – *“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.”*

## 2. All true glory exists in Christ.

- A. Exists = “is located in,” “resides in,” “is found in”
- B. v. 29 – *“As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.”*
- C. A metamorphosis took place.
1. In Matthew's parallel account (Mat. 17.2), Matthew uses the word “*metemorphw, qh*” to describe this transfiguration of Christ.
  2. The well-known example the butterfly: A metamorphosis is a radical transformation.
  3. These disciples had only ever seen Christ's human body; now they were given a glimpse of His eternal heavenly glory.
- D. This glorious display is not something that happens to Christ, but something that comes from within Him.
- E. All glory exists in Jesus Christ, because He is God.
1. Blazing light emanates from within Christ's body.
    - a. v. 29 – *“...his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.”*
    - b. Matthew 17:2 – *“His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.”*
    - c. Mark 9:3 – *“His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them.”*
  2. This blazing light is a hallmark of God's presence.
    - a. 1 John 1:5 – *“God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.”*
    - b. John 8:12 – *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*
    - c. Exodus 34 – When Moses said, *“Let me see Your glory,”* God let His glory pass by, and it was so brilliant that it remained on Moses' face, and Moses had to veil his face lest he frighten all of Israel.
    - d. Revelation 21:23 – *“The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.”*

### **3. All true glory ends in Christ.**

A. v. 30-31 – *“Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.”*

B. Jesus is the fulfillment and culmination of all God’s plans and purposes.

1. All of Scripture points to Him.

a. Moses represents the Law; Elijah represents the prophets.

b. Here they are together as a testimony to Christ.

2. Jesus finishes all that Moses and Elijah started.

a. Moses was succeeded by Joshua, who fulfilled Moses’ mission; Elijah was succeeded by Elisha (which is another form of the name Joshua), who carried on Elijah’s mission.

b. “Joshua” is the Hebrew equivalent of “Jesus.”

c. The similarity of these names is no accident.

i. They pointed ahead to the fact that Jesus was the ultimate successor.

ii. Thus, God ordained Jesus to fulfill and complete all of the work of the Law and the Prophets.

3. Jesus’ departure is the center point of all history.

a. v. 31 – *“They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.”*

b. From the beginning of this world until its end, the atoning death of Christ has been and will always remain humanity’s only hope.

### **4. All true glory exalts in Christ.**

A. v. 33-35 – *“As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, ‘Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ (He did not know what he was saying.) While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.”*

B. There is no equal to Jesus Christ.

1. Peter, not knowing what he was saying, proposes to set up three shelters.

a. At least one reason why this suggestion was inappropriate was that Moses, Elijah, and Jesus are not equals.

b. Jesus has a throne in heaven, not a tent on earth.

2. The voice of God sets the record straight.

a. v. 35 – *“This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.”*

- b. No matter how great Moses and Elijah were (and they were great servants), Jesus Christ was far greater.
- c. J.C. Ryle – “[Moses and Elijah] were but servants; he was the King’s Son. They were but stars; he was the Sun. They were but witnesses; he was the truth.”

**Application:**

1. We waste our lives if we pursue any glory other than glory in Christ.
2. A life well lived:
  - a. Because all true glory ensues in Christ, a life well lived begins with faith in Him and complete devotion to Him.
  - b. Because all true glory exists in Christ, a life well lived seeks to know Him and honor His Word.
  - c. Because all true glory ends in Christ, a life well lived will pursue His purposes by His strength.
  - d. Because all true glory exalts in Christ, a life well lived will live and proclaim His glory and not our own.