

The Personality of God's Glory

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Ezekiel Chapter 1.

Often in the church among God's people there are clashes in personalities that attempt to hinder covenant relationships, productive authority in our lives and the furthering of the Kingdom and God's purposes for us.

As we look at Scripture we find that many had a problem with the personality of Jesus. Peter's strong willed personality seemed to clash as Jesus rebuked him. The temple leaders did not care for His personality when He threw them out. In each of these instances the very glory of God was non-the-less present.

As Christians we tend to want to put God's glory in a box and say that it has to manifest a certain way. If we look at the patterns of His glory we find that He manifested His glory in various ways.

With Abraham it was provision in the nick of time. With Lot it was the wrath of His justice. With Moses it was in a burning bush. With the children of Israel it was as fire. With Elijah it was legends of angels fighting his enemies. With Elisha it was as a mist. With Moses it was face-to-face. With Joshua it was face-to-face. With Joshua it was face-to-face. With Jacob it was a wrestling match. With Paul it blinded him. With Stephen the heavens opened up. What we find is that the pattern is not in the manifestation but in that which moves the heart of Father towards His people. We need not set our affections on seeing the manifestation of God's glory but on embracing the personality of His glory.

Here in Ezekiel we find the glory of God made manifest in four different ways. We find first that the prophet had allowed God to position him in place for the glory of God to be made manifest. He finds himself in a place where most Christians are not willing to go. He was among the captives. He was also at the river. Here again is a place where most are not willing to go. And here the heavens were opened to him. If you want more of what God's got you have to go where God dwells. You have to make the sacrifices of the flesh and be willing to go where most are not willing. You have to seek harder than most are willing to seek. You have to go to that place of submission and humility and walk in the sovereign will of God.

Notice in **verse 3**. Ezekiel was both a priest and a son when the hand of the Lord was upon him. You have to walk in the fulfillment of God's purposes and plans for your life as sons and priest. You have been chosen, redeemed, and adopted into the Kingdom of God. As priest you have to walk in righteousness down to the heart of the matter and bring the sacrifices of worship before His throne. You have to seek His face. As sons and daughters you have to walk in the obedience of your Kingdom inheritance and bear the mark of the Father upon your entire life and person. You have to think like the Father, act like the Father, and take on the personality of the Father. Then will the hand of the Lord be upon you and you may not only see His glory but be His glory.

God's desire is to manifest His glory not just around you for you to see and awe at but to manifest His glory through you to change the hearts of man and turn them back to Him. The very purpose of the glory of God is to set the captives free. Every time I have seen the manifested glory of God it has been under similar circumstances where I have been in Mexico, Africa, in the streets, or wherever there were those held captive by poverty, sin, or hopelessness but they were desperate for the power of God to touch their hearts. Not just change their situation but to touch the hearts and souls. They were looking for true freedom. They were looking for freedom of their souls.

Now in **verse 5** it says these were "**Living Creatures**". Each one of these creatures through God's glory were vibrantly alive yet were creatures of great power to also bring death. Through you God's glory is able to bring life around you to others and all creation. But without it your attitude, your tongue, the power of your will is able to bring death. You are called through the glory of God to be living creatures bring life to those around

you. You are called to bring hope, vision, purpose and peace to your homes, cities, work places and everything that the glory of God can influence through you. The word's "The hand of the Lord upon you" is an expression used to denote the influential power of the Holy Spirit when a man yields to the will of God.

In Ezekiel the glory of God manifested in four creatures, all alike but yet manifested in four different forms. Their wings were joined and they moved in unity and harmony one with another. They had a unity of purpose and direction in the direction of the glory and Spirit of God. Each had the face of man, a lion, an ox, and eagle. Out of them came forth light and fire. Need I even begin to express that the Word of God commands us to be the light of this world and to set it on fire with the glory of God.

Let us look now at **verse 28**. Up to this point the prophet has seen many wondrous things but now he states that in the "day of the rain" he sees the glory of God round about and he is compelled but to fall on his face. As he fell on his face he heard the voice of Almighty.

People, the day of the rain comes when our face is set towards Him. The glory of the Lord is round about waiting to manifest when our hearts are set towards Him.

The Glory as a Man

Now turn to **Hebrews 10:12-19**. Here we find again the image of a man and the glory of God. The glory of God came into the earth and made way for the glory to dwell in you and I. After completing the will of God this man sat down at the right hand of God and there He remains to this day. God needs you to fill this earth with His glory. Without Christ His glory could dwell in you with out bringing death because of the law and the sin of man.

Even to this day the glory of God cannot come without bring death to the unredeemed. But through those who are redeemed by the blood can His glory dwell among men. It is only through you that the glory of God can be seen by those who are unredeemed and draw their hearts to the glory of the Father's heart. Now because of Christ you have access to the holiest place, the heart of Father. God's glory needs to operate through you to witness, bring healing, and set the captives free. So, it was important that one of the manifestations of the glory of God be that of a man. Christ and Christ in you.

The Glory as a Lion

Another image of the glory of God was that of a lion. The lion is a symbol of royalty, loyalty, and Kingdom authority. The lion also represents boldness. The Word says we have made kings and priest and made able to enter into the holy of holies with boldness as did David. The face of the man represented the sacrifice and redemption of Kingdom dominion. The lion represents the Kingdom authority of that dominion.

Look at **Revelations 5:1-10**. No one was worthy to release the Word of the Lord then the Lion came and became a Lamb to make a way that you could be kings and priest to reign on the earth. **Proverbs 30:30** says that "A lion is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any." You need the personality of God in you that brings a confidence, not in you, but of the one that dwells in you. But you would not know that confidence if you know not that one of whom the authority of that confidence dwells.

The Glory as an Ox

Philpians 2:5-16. The Ox is the symbol of strength in humility. It is strength retrained in obedience to the will of the Master. It labors without complaint bearing the burdens of others, working the fields of the Father and brings forth the fruit as a result. It is willingly yoked and bound to the will of the Master. It is above all a strong, silent, humble, and obedient servant. It has the strength to rebel and be defiant but instead yields to the authority of the Master. Though they nailed the Master to a tree He spoke nothing but words of forgiveness.

If we labor for the Lord but murmur or complain we labor in vain. If we yield to the sovereign will of God in our lives it is His good pleasure to bring forth the good fruit of His will in our lives which is life as Sons

and Daughters. As sons and daughters we are to have the mind of Christ which was to give of Himself and bear the burden of others that they may be strengthened and brought to life. Thought Jesus came as a servant He was also our strength. **Psalms 18:32** “*It is God who girds me with strength.*” In **Matthew 11:28** “*Come unto me all ye who are burden and heaven laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly at heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*”

The Glory as an Eagle

Exodus 19:3-9 The eagle symbolizes the honor and faithfulness of the government of God; It is a symbol of victory, peace, and justice. The eagle represents protection and the nurturing of the young at heart. The eagle soars higher and against the storms; the eagle dwells in the high crevasses of mountain peaks. The eagles live above all else. So it is with the glory of God.

To walk in and see the glory of God you have to do as Moses and go to the high place and fall humbly on your face. You have to rise above all else. You have to rise above your problems and the problems of this earth and seek the face of God. You have to rise above childishness and immature responses and thinking. You have to act different, think different, and perceive things differently. You have to do things different for a different outcome.

I am not saying become spooky spiritual. I am saying make the time and set your heart and face towards God. Challenge your own hearts and thinking. Challenge your own perceptions and paradigms. Challenge where you are in order to get where you want to be in the presence and glory of the Lord. Determine that in Christ you will pursue a place in God higher than you have ever been before. Do not expect God to come down to you. Instead, you go up to God.

Look at what God told Moses. “*IF ye will obey My voice and KEEP My covenant, then ye shall be peculiar ABOVE all people for ALL THE EARTH IS MINE. Ye shall be unto Me a KINGDOM of priests, a HOLY NATION.and I will come unto you as a THICK CLOUD....*”

So we find the pattern of the personalities of God’s manifested glory:

The man – the sacrifice and redemption of dominion and covenant

The lion – the authority of the Kingdom

The eagle – the honor and faithfulness of the government of God; It is a symbol of victory, peace, and justice. The eagle represents protection and the nurturing of the young at heart. The eagle soars higher and against the storms; the eagle dwells in the high crevasses of mountain peaks.

The Ox – the strength and stability; the working of the fields of harvest for the fruit of the Kingdom. The ox walks and works in unity. It is a servant and bears the burdens of others. It is yoked to the will of the Master.

God’s desire from the beginning is for His glory, His presence, His authority, His dominion, His heart, His personality, His very person to dwell among you intimately. His desire was to make you and then redeem you to His image.

This very day He desires for His glory to manifest through you in His image. You are redeemed men, not as Adam but as Christ. You have been given the authority of the Lion of Judah to redeem all and establish the Kingdom of God. You are called to walk in the faithfulness of His government and to dwell in the high places with God. You are called to walk in victory as an eagle. You are called to yield to the will of the Master, walk in unity, love one another, bear your brothers burdens, and serve with the strength of the Master.