

Meeker Christian Church  
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Your Victory His Glory  
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We are learning that our Christian lives include the necessity of accepting responsibility for creating a positive winning character and attitude in the face of and in spite of the circumstances encountered in this life.. That winning character and attitude lifestyle communicates a wonderful serendipity that is a reward of our personal salvation and kingdom service life. "Your Victory His Glory!"

What I mean is this - when you become a Christian and commit to that lifestyle you receive salvation and the promise of eternal life. But also as a result of that decision and lifestyle you receive a new potential for a Winning Attitude. But there is still another incredible serendipity and that is - because of your decision to be a Christian with the accompanying winning attitude -- God is glorified. What a marvelous fact of creation, "Your Victory God's Glory," all resulting from the same decision.

Luke 15:7-10 7 I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. 8 "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' 10 Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Verse 7 says "in heaven" while verse 10 says "in the presence of the angels" So who was that doing all that rejoicing when you came to Christ? Not just you, but for everyone who comes to Christ?

And the other part of the same query: Who is in heaven doing the rejoicing?

A. In Heaven are: the righteous who have passed from this life into their eternal reward are in heaven, along with Enoch and Elijah who were translated:

B. Who else is in heaven? The attending angels.

C. Who else is in heaven? GOD - I picture God leading a victory parade because HE knows more clearly than anyone the price HE paid to provide the possibility for a decision of a lost sinner. He knows more than anyone the great victory you have received and the eternal praise you will give Him as a result. That is something to have a victory celebration about!!! Your decision brings glory to GOD and all who are in heaven rejoice because of it.

Do you remember Newton's Third Law of Motion in 1686?: For every action (force) in nature there is an equal and opposite reaction.

I suggest that the basic premise is applicable here. One who makes a decision for Jesus receives salvation, glorifies God and is a blessing to others in a totally unselfish act. The opposite but equal reaction is that refusing to make a decision for righteousness is a selfish act that withholds blessing from others and withholds glory from God resulting in the souls

eternal penalty. Our prayer may well be, *"Please Heavenly Father cause us to recognize and acknowledge the models of bringing You glory by using the attributes You entrusted to our soul/spirit in righteous kingdom service. May our lives and giftedness bring all glory, honor and praise unto thee. Amen"*

satan will do anything to neutralize that Christian attitude and influence. It is more than just some odd coincidence that humans, at least Americans in general, are inclined to accept our blessings as a right and entitlement by virtue of birth and freedoms of the Constitution.

Here are some thoughts from the Old Testament to give us further perspective:

First from the Psalmist;

**Psalm 29:2** *Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Our freedoms are permitted by God, sustained by kingdom obedience.*

**Psalm 96** *1 Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth. 2 Sing to the Lord, bless His name; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day. 3 Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples. 4 For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the Lord made the heavens. 6 Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary. 7 Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Give to the Lord glory and strength. 8 Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. 9 Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth. 10 Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns; The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously." 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; Let the sea roar, and all its fullness; 12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the Lord. 13 For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, And the peoples with His truth.*

Another glorious example: **Jeremiah 9:23-24** *Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord.*

I wonder if we might be more personally motivated for love and good works if we permitted, encouraged, and invited the Holy Spirit to use our winning attitude and resulting character to verbally as well as physically express joy by giving praise and glory to God our creator, our Father in Heaven, and spiritual sustainer for eternity. John recorded this prayer of Jesus for the disciples and us in

**John 17:20-26** *20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. 24 "Father, I desire that*

*they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."*

The Scripture uses the word glory almost 300 times, for instance:

- Moses... Exodus 15, "awesome in glory"
- David... Psalm 24, "The King of Glory"
- Ezekiel... Ezekiel 43, "and I saw the glory of the God of Israel"
- Isaiah 6... The seraphim were calling, "the whole earth is full of his glory"
- Luke 2:14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"
- John 11:40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

You want to see the glory of God? Just look around you and absorb Paul's inspired instruction for encouragement and emboldment in the Christian walk while we are in this alien land. By the way, Israel of the New Testament when Paul was writing was not only dominated by satan as well as under the suppression of the Roman self-proclaimed god caesars.

Yet Paul taught them, as he teaches us in **Romans 2:6-10** *who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

We handle the holy and the sacred every day, by virtue of life in God's creation and God is glorified through us. However, those that treat this sacred creation as common, primitive or "just life," ignore the glory of God. And the stronghold of faith is compromised and satan strolls into the unsuspecting and undefended life, unimpeded as is happening all around us. Repeating Paul's caution... ignoring God happens when the potential of claiming to live "for God's glory" is twisted by satan to really become our own glory we chase.

**Ephesians 1:11-12** *In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.*

When someone is baptized the fires of the eternal place of punishment diminish for fuel has been snatched from its roaring furnace. Heaven's inhabitants rejoice and your personal victory over sin by accepting Jesus - results in all Heaven rejoicing and God's glory!

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For our invitation today, I have 4 questions:

1. In all of the order of the universe do you acknowledge God who created it?
2. Does it seem to you like the world is getting to be more unsettled, sinful and dangerous for righteous living?
3. Would you accept a free gift to the life that worldly events can never take away?

4. Do you believe that Jesus is the son of God and do you accept Him as Your Savior to save you from the corruption of this world?

If you have said yes to those 4 questions you understand there is one GOD, Almighty Creator deserving of our glory. Everyone has sinned and must have help to escape satans death grip. God sent Jesus to die and take your sins and mine away, and offers that sacrifice of His son for you - but you must acknowledge you understand and receive that free gift.

When you have done that, then you have prepared a dwelling place for the very presence of God on this earth - the Holy Spirit the Bible calls Him. And you are ready to follow through with understanding of baptism and living a wholesome life knowing you have been the reason for a victory celebration in Heaven.

**John 14:6** *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

**Acts 4:12** *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*