

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 3:4-16

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX792 JANUARY 20, 2013

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

NOTHING CAN BE GREATER

DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING THE RIGHT HEART FOR HIS MINISTRY

Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Law, Grace, Love Condemnation, Jesus, Moses

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 3:4-16

2Cor. 3:4-16

2Cor. 3:4-6 And we have such trust **through** Christ **toward** God. :5 Not that we are **sufficient** of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our **sufficiency** is from God, :6 who also made us **sufficient** as ministers of the **new covenant**, not of the **letter** but of the **Spirit**; for the **letter kills**, but the **Spirit gives life**. **2Cor. 3:7-11** But if the ministry of **death**, written and engraved on **stones**, was **glorious**, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, :8 how will the ministry of the **Spirit** not be more **glorious**? :9 For if the ministry of **condemnation** had glory, the ministry of **righteousness** exceeds much more in glory. :10 For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. :11 For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious. **2Cor. 3:12-16** Therefore, since we have such hope, we use **great boldness of speech** - - :13 unlike Moses, who put a **veil over his face** so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. :14 But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is (*can only be*) taken away in Christ. :15 But

even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. :16
Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

I remember the first encounter I ever had with a Bible

It was the evening of Tuesday, February 9, 1971 – why? Because Earlier

That Day - **The Sylmar Earthquake Hit at 6:00:41am**

(I thought that if I slept with the Bible next to me – God would not allow me to be killed)

I never opened it to read it – I just held it near.

Knowing it was important. Not knowing why.

Jer. 31:31-33

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel *(Israel first then the world)* and with the house of Judah - :32 **not according to the covenant** that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My **covenant** which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. :33 But this *is* **the covenant** that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: ***I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.***

NOTHING CAN BE GREATER

1.) Than absolute assurance

v. 4-6

1a.) Into the presence of Almighty God

v. 4-5a

Verse 4-5a

:4 And we have such trust **through** Christ **toward** God. :5a Not that we are **sufficient** of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves

THAN ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE

1b.) Into the acceptance of Almighty God

v. 5b-6a

:5b but our **sufficiency** is from God,

1c.) Into the **life** of Almighty God

v. 6b

not of the **letter** but of the **Spirit**;
for the letter **kills**, but the (Holy) **Spirit** gives **life**.

NOTHING CAN BE GREATER

2.) Than multiplied **glory**

v. 7-11

THAN MULTIPLIED GLORY

2a.) The **great** glory

v. 7-8

Verse 7-8

But if the ministry of **death**, written and engraved on **stones**, was **glorious**, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, :8 **how will the ministry of the Spirit not be MORE GLORIOUS?**

MORE glorious, **MORE** glorious, **MORE** glorious

glorious doxa, *dox'-ah*; the greatest honour, the greatest praise, the greatest worship.

1Tim. 1:11

according to **the glorious gospel** of the **blessed** God

(the happy God)

throughout history greek scholars have struggled to put the contemporary meaning of the word "Blessed" in the translation for fear of appearing disrespectful.

"Blessed" sounds appropriate. But if Paul was speaking this verse to us today he would say it in English and it would be just like this...

"according to the glorious gospel of The Really Really Happy God

Rom. 3:19-22

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, **that every mouth may be stopped**, and **all the world may become guilty before God.** :20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. :21 ***But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,*** :22 ***even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.***

NOTHING CAN BE GREATER THAN MULTIPLIED GLORY

2b.) The **greater** glory

v. 9

Verse 9

For if the ministry of **condemnation** **had** glory,
the ministry of **righteousness** **exceeds MUCH MORE in glory.**

Where There is Mutual Love – Regulations Cease.

**Why Did God Promise a New Covenant? –
Because The Old Covenant was **Void of Power & Love****

Heb. 7:18-19

For on the one hand there is an **annulling** (*expiration*) of the former commandment because of its **weakness** (*inability*) and **unprofitableness**, (*benefits*) :19 for the law made nothing **perfect** (*pure, holy, complete*) on the other hand, *there is the* bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.

Rom. 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. :2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

NOTHING CAN BE GREATER THAN MULTIPLIED GLORY

2c.) The **greatest** of glories

v. 10-11

Verse 10-11

:10 For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, **because of the glory that excels**. :11 For if what is passing away was **glorious**, **what remains is MUCH MORE glorious**

excels *huperballo*, *hoop-er-bal'-lo*; to cast or to throw beyond the point, to surpass with exceeding greatness.

and this **“WHAT REMAINS”** is God’s Eternal Gospel of His Grace.

Col. 1:26-27

the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been **revealed to His saints**. :27 To them God willed to make known what are **the riches of the glory** of **this mystery** among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

CULTS / HUMAN-BASED SALVATION / RELIGIONS

Silly little cults who come along trying to say the gospel needs our help to complete it – to enhance it – to empower it.

Heb. 8:1-2

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, :2 a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

The New Covenant is much, much, much **MORE glorious**

Heb. 8:7-10

For if that first (*old*) covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. :8 Because finding fault with them, He says: *“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah - :9 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. :10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jer.31:31-33)*

glorious

Heb. 9:11

But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

glorious

Heb. 9:14-15

how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? :15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death,

glorious

Heb. 9:19-20

For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, :20 saying, *“This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you.”*

(you're gonna need blood)

glorious

Heb. 10:10-12

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. :11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. :12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,

glorious

Heb. 10:19-22

Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, :20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, :21 and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, :22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance

glorious

This is Glorious News So Lets All Stand

Eph. 3:20-21

Now to **Him who is able** to do **exceedingly abundantly above all** that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, :21 to **Him be glory** in the church by Christ Jesus to **all generations, forever and ever. AMEN.**

glorious

Rev. 1:1,14-15

The **Revelation (glory)** of Jesus Christ - - :14 **HIS HEAD AND HAIR WERE WHITE LIKE WOOL, AS WHITE AS SNOW, AND HIS EYES LIKE A FLAME OF FIRE;** :15 His feet *were* like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, **AND HIS VOICE AS THE SOUND OF MANY WATERS;**

glorious

Rev. 19:11-16

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And **He who sat on him was called Faithful and True**, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. :12 **HIS EYES WERE LIKE A FLAME OF FIRE, AND ON HIS HEAD WERE MANY CROWNS. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.** :13 **He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.** :14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. :15 Now out of **HIS MOUTH GOES A**

SHARP SWORD, that with it He should strike the nations. And **He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. :16** And **He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

glorious

Rev. 20:11

:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, **FROM WHOSE FACE THE EARTH AND THE HEAVEN FLED AWAY. AND THERE WAS FOUND NO PLACE FOR THEM.**

glorious

Heb. 9:28

so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

glorious

CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING GREATER THAN...

God's Love for You? How He Has Displayed and Revealed His Love?

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ,**
The Call <<<<<
Come Forward for Prayer

End of Study

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