

THE EXODUS FIVE

Part 5 • July 6, 2025 | Pastor Jason Smotherman

THE GLORY OF GOD

The Second of Five takeaways from the Book of Exodus

EXODUS 16:6-10 NKJV

⁶ Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt. ⁷ And in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord; for He hears your complaints against the Lord. But what are we, that you complain against us?" ⁸ Also Moses said, "This shall be seen when the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the Lord hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what are we? Your complaints are not against us but against the Lord."

⁹ Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your complaints.' "

¹⁰ Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

Over the past couple weeks, we stood with Moses at the burning bush.

We saw that when God reveals Himself, it's not convenient, safe, or explainable. His glory disrupts comfort, confronts culture, and ignites a deep hunger that says, "***This... I've got to see.***"

But the fire on the mountain wasn't just for a man—it was for a people. While Moses encountered God's presence, Israel cried out under oppression. Egypt wasn't just a place; it was a system—economic, political, and spiritual—designed to keep God's people stuck. God didn't whisper deliverance—He displayed it.

Through plagues that shattered idols, through fire that burned compromise, and through a declaration that shook an empire: "Let My people go." ***We saw Deliverance.***

Today, we're stepping into Glory. And when it shows up—everything changes. The **GLORY OF GOD** isn't just a feeling—it's His presence, power, and authority breaking through darkness.

THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE BIBLE

JOHN 4:24 - God is Spirit. He has no physical form or body. He is immaterial (not material) and incorporeal (bodiless).

GENESIS 1:1 - He was here before material.

GENESIS 3:8 - Adam and Eve never saw him but heard Him.

JOHN 1:18 - No man has seen God at anytime (argument for the Trinity - 3 persons in One)

When we talk about the glory of God, we often think in vague terms like power, light, awe, experience, emotion, or demonstration.

But Scripture gives us concrete pictures of what glory looks like, even from the very beginning.

The first mention of "glory" in the Bible is in **GENESIS 31:1**, where Jacob's wealth: his flocks, his herds, his success—is called his glory.

It wasn't Jacob himself that was being praised, **it was what surrounded him that pointed to who he was.**

Jacob's glory was the visible evidence of favor, blessing, and increase.

The second was in **GENESIS 45:13**, Joseph tells his brothers, "Go tell my father about all my glory in Egypt." What was that? His position. His power. His influence. The authority he now carried in the most powerful nation on earth.

Again, the glory wasn't the man—it was what pointed to the man.

So what does that say about the glory of God?

If Jacob's possessions were his glory... If Joseph's position was his glory...

Then God's glory is everything that surrounds Him and points to Him:

*His power, His presence, His justice, His mercy, His holiness,
His goodness, His voice, His works.*

The **GLORY OF GOD** is not a single thing—it's everything that points to who He is. It's the weight of His character made visible.

It's the evidence of His presence made manifest.

It's the undeniable display of His rule, His authority, His beauty, His justice, His perfection—every attribute He possesses on full display.

So when Moses said, "Show me Your glory," he wasn't just asking to feel something. He was asking to see the evidence of who God is. God said to this request: I will show you my goodness.

When the **GLORY OF GOD fills a space, it's not just a vibe or feeling: it's a revelation.**

That revelation produces the awe or discovery of God that produces a flesh reaction.

Examples of "Flesh Reactions" : Happiness, tears, shouts, stillness, holy hush, or the like.

NOTE: When His glory is here and the anointing is being experienced, don't you dare take that spotlight.

Ezekiel called it: "like a fire shut up in my bones".

It tells the room, "God is here, and this is what He's like."

Just like Egypt saw Joseph's glory and couldn't ignore it...

Just like Laban's sons saw Jacob's glory and grew jealous...

We have an opportunity to see the glory of our God.

The **GLORY OF GOD** is something we can see.

EXODUS 24:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. ¹⁸ So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

PSALM 19:1-4 (NKJV)

Heavens declare the glory of God.

God's glory is displayed in:

- Wildflowers on a hillside.
- Bubbling stream down a mountainside
- Deer grazing by a lake.
- The stars displayed in glory.
- Sun setting over the ocean.
- The love in all people: missionaries, nurses, mothers
- The Grand Canyon.
- An eagle soaring in the Heavens.

THE WARNING

ROMANS 1:25 (NIV)

They changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

The **GLORY OF GOD** is something we can track back to the source.

Effulgence (or effulgence) of God — What does it mean?

The word effulgence refers to radiant splendor or shining brilliance.

It's the idea of light that shines forth from a source. It's not the source itself—but it is the visible outflow of that source.

In Christian theology, the effulgence of God refers to the radiant expression of His nature, what flows from His being and reveals who He is. It's like sunlight is to the sun, the brightness that tells you the sun is present and powerful, even if you can't touch it directly.

The Indian and the Lightbulb

A missionary once shared the gospel with a Native American man who was deeply moved by the message of Jesus. After some time, the man accepted Christ and began attending church. He was especially fascinated by all the things in the church building—especially electricity. One day, the man approached the pastor and said, "I want to buy some of this electricity."

The pastor, confused, asked, "What do you mean?" The man pointed up to the lightbulb hanging from the ceiling and said, "That light—how much does it cost?" The pastor explained, "The bulb isn't the power. The bulb is just what the power flows through. You need to be connected to the source."

But the man was insistent. So finally, the pastor gave him a bulb and sent him home.

A few weeks later, the missionary came to visit the man's home and noticed something strange. Right in the middle of the ceiling, a lightbulb was hanging from a string. But the room was still dark. "Why isn't it on?" the missionary asked. The man smiled and said, "It worked at the church! But now... nothing."

And the missionary gently said, "The light doesn't come from the bulb. It comes from being connected to the power."

The *GLORY OF GOD* is an invitation to experience the evidence of a loving God.

HEBREWS 4:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

HEBREWS 1:3 (NKJV)

³ who being the brightness (effulgence) of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high