



## THE MYSTERY: CHRIST IN YOU THE HOPE OF GLORY, PART 2

Hi, ladies!

Welcome back to part four of our study into the Glory of God. Last month, we established that, if we grasp the true meaning of our salvation, we can BE His glory. We saw that His Glory is shown because of Christ IN US, and us walking in this amazing Grace! The starting point is to put off the *old self* and to put on the *new self*.

This month, we are going continue to FOCUS on “Christ in us, the hope of glory.” What does that mean?

Romans 9:23 says, “**...that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory.**”

Remember, we've established that His Glory is His Splendor, Majesty, Weight, Significance, Honor, Abundance, Riches, Dignity, Reputation, and Reverence. In other words, the shining forth of his attributes and character... who He is!

When Moses asked God to show him His glory, God showed him His GOODNESS and GRACE!

*“And he said, ‘Please, show me Your GLORY.’ Then He said, ‘I will make all My GOODNESS pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be GRACIOUS to whom I will be gracious, and I will have COMPASSION on whom I will have compassion”* (Exodus 33:18-19 NKJV).

This reminds me of Psalm 23:6 that says, “Surely GOODNESS and MERCY shall follow me all the days of my life.”

I often like to think of it this way... When I look over my shoulder, I have a stalker called GOODNESS AND MERCY following me relentlessly; day in and day out—and so do you!

### **GOD'S GLORY IS HIS NATURE. HE IS GOODNESS AND MERCY PERSONIFIED!**

Let's FOCUS and take a closer look:

**1. THE FOCUS IS ON HIM.** If Christ is IN you and you are IN Him and OF Him, you won't be self-centered but rather Christ-centered. That's when you bring Him glory! It has nothing to do with whether or not you *feel* like a “glorious vessel.”



*“God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty” (1 Corinthians 1:27 NKJV).*

We do not seek glory in the flesh and worldly things, but rather we FOCUS on Him!

In 1 Corinthians 1:29-31, we read that *“No flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are IN Christ Jesus, who became for us WISDOM from God—and RIGHTEOUSNESS and SANCTIFICATION and REDEMPTION—that, as it is written, ‘He who GLORIES, let him GLORY in the Lord.’”*

That means that when we walk humbly, fully aware of His grace and mercy in our lives, we reflect HIS GLORY.

In his book entitled “Humility,” Andrew Murray stated that *“Humility is the highest grace. Humility is to walk in His grace - it is the highest currency in the Kingdom.”*

How has this upside-down concept worked in your life?

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## **2. THE MYSTERY IS FOUND IN THE SPIRIT.**

Receive the Spirit. If we live and walk in the Spirit, we enter into the realm of the Kingdom and behave according to our true citizenship. That is how we reflect the glory of our King. As we represent our King and do not conform to this world, people will see that we are different.

*“We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery—the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory” (1 Corinthians 2:7 NKJV).*

God reveals His mysteries through His Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:10). Discovering these hidden things, speaking about and teaching them, brings Him Glory. Not only that, but we are also TRANSFORMED as our minds are renewed with His wisdom (Romans 12:2), and ultimately, this transformation brings the MIND OF CHRIST in us!

Colossians 2:2-3 says, *“My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Colossians 2:2-3 NIV).*

When we walk in the Spirit, we operate in supernatural wisdom and knowledge, and God shows us “hidden things.” We will speak the language of Christ who is in us and live according to His value system.



Christ IN US is the ANSWER to the mystery!

Reflect on an incident or story where the Spirit of God helped you to give Him glory instead of doing something that would only benefit you and make you look good.

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### 3. KNOW THAT CHRIST IS STRONG IN US AND STRONG ON OUR BEHALF.

Do you remember that old worship song<sup>1</sup> that declared, "Let the weak say 'I am strong'"? (Joel 3:10) What a comfort to know that His strength is perfected in our weakness.

- 1 Corinthians 4:20 NKJV says that "The Kingdom of God is not in word but in Power."
- But the Message Bible says it this way: "God's Way is not a matter of mere talk; it's an empowered life."
- And the New Living Translations says it this way: "For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power."

Regardless of which translation you read, the message is clear... His enabling power, the GRACE of God, is your portion. His supernatural enabling power in you reflects His glory and testifies of His goodness.

### 4. REALIZE AND WALK IN HIS GRACE!

We read in Romans 5:17 that, "For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who RECEIVE ABUNDANCE of GRACE and of the GIFT of RIGHTEOUSNESS will REIGN in life THROUGH THE ONE, JESUS CHRIST."

His grace and righteousness are RECEIVED, not ACHIEVED, and it enables us to reign in this life through Jesus Christ!

"And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but GRACE and TRUTH came through Jesus Christ" (John 1:16-17 NKJV).

This truth will change your life forever. **Grace is not a cover-up! Grace is the power of Jesus Christ in you to take you higher up!** Grace is not a plaster (bandage)- Grace is a Person. Jesus

Christ IS grace personified..



*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14 NKJV).*

SEE His Grace in both who He is and what He has done for you. Walking in faith (utter dependence on God) means that we reflect the reality of HIS GRACE, His Person, in us! Christ in us is the hope of glory!

*“In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28 NKJV).*

### **“Look in the Mirror” Time**

Here is a rhetorical question for all of us (*yes, we know that the answer is obvious*): Where would you be today had you not been saved? To whose glory would that have been?

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We realize that, because of Christ in us, we bring Him glory even in our imperfections. How can you relate to this? Please share a time when you’ve experienced giving Him glory despite your imperfections.

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### **Conclusion**

Our Father is the COMPLETE SOLUTION for our human dilemma! He sent His Son to redeem us; Christ is IN me, and I am IN Him.

The more we walk in this Grace (in the realm of the Spirit), reflecting His mercy on us in this fallen world, the more His Glory is shown.

**“To them, God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27 NIV).**

He truly is a “Good, good Father... perfect in ALL of His ways.”<sup>2</sup> He promises to never leave or forsake us, and He covers us with His Glory—His goodness and mercy.

May you enjoy Him FULLY in EVERY area of your life!

*“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or WHATEVER you do, do ALL to the GLORY of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31 NKJV).*

*Enjoy!*

*Edna and the Tribal Girls*