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# The Glory

“Something to Think About” Series by Don ward



*And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. John 17:5*

What was the “glory” Jesus spoke of? Was it the glory of resurrection, the glory of ascension, the glory of being seated at the right hand of the Father? All of these are a form of great glory. But none of

these is the glory Jesus meant. Jesus was speaking about another, different kind of glory, the glory of the cross.

This verse stands in context with similar words of Jesus beginning in chapter 12. As we look at these scriptures it will become evident what Jesus meant.

*At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him. Jn.12:16*

The disciples would not understand the events pertaining to His death until after Jesus was glorified. So when did they first understand? They understood shortly after Jesus’ resurrection when He explained it to them on the road to Emmaus.

*Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Luke 24:45*

Now they understood and so now we understand that “*the glory*” Jesus spoke of had to have taken place prior to the walk to Emmaus. “Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize . . .”.

As Jesus made His way towards Jerusalem for the last time He began to speak often about His eminent death. When He said, “*the hour has come*”, He meant the hour of his death. It was not His resurrection, ascension or anything subsequent. He was referring to His death. His death was the hour of His glorification and not His only, but the hour of His Father’s glorification as well.

*Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. . . [27] “Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. [28] Father, glorify your name!”* John 12:23-28

His resurrection, ascension or exaltation to the right hand of the Father would not be “troubling” or something to be “saved from”. He was referring to His death.

*I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.* Jn. 12:24

The “*glory*” starts to become evident in this passage. It is the glory of a seed to die to bring forth not only new life, but abundant new life. Jesus was illustrating the glory of His own death. It is the glory of what Jesus’s death accomplished as he fulfilled the will of the Father.

In His death Jesus would be glorified. In His death, the Father would be glorified. The Son would be glorified along with the Father! This is made clear in the following verse.

*When he (Judas) was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.* John 13:31-32

It is the glory of giving one’s life for others. It is the glory of giving one’s son for others. Even more. It is the glory of one so special as Jesus giving His life for sinners. It is also to God’s eternal glory that He gave His Son to die for our redemption.

. . . *I lay down my life for the sheep.* John 10:15

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son ”.*

Jesus’ death was secured in God’s plan “*before the world was*”. But the occurrence was not until “*this hour*”. Jesus is the -

. . . *Lamb (God’s Lamb) that was slain from the creation of the world.* Rev. 13:8

Reading John 17:1 & 5 in the light of Jesus’ earlier, similar statements helps us see that “*the glory*” referred to is the glory of the cross, the only power that can redeem a lost world, 1Cor.1:18.

*These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*

*And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.* John 17:1.5

Eternally #1 on the charts will be the song of Jesus atoning death (Rev.5:9-10). Will you be among those filled with eternal gratitude?

If you wish to study further please contact me or go to

<http://www.mindspring.com/~anthonybuzzard/articles.htm> or [http:// www.comingkingdom.org/ATCmag.html](http://www.comingkingdom.org/ATCmag.html)