

*Morning Sermon Outline – October 15, 2017*  
*“Glorious, Incorruptible Seed” 1 Peter 1:23-25*

having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,<sup>24</sup> because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,<sup>25</sup> But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you. (1 Peter 1:23-25 NKJ)

*What do you think of when you hear the words “the glory of man”?* Honestly what came to mind first for me was the number 666, which I believe symbolically points back to the day man was created, the 6<sup>th</sup> day and means MAN, MAN, MAN as an emphasis and symbolizes everything man can and will do apart from God –  
There is a way *that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.* (Proverbs 16:25 NKJ)

*Today, there are many people who would call abortion and euthanasia (good death) HEALTH CARE? Is there really such a thing as a healthy corpse? Yet ...*

I. *There is a “glory” even of corruptible seed – all the glory of man... (1 Peter 1:24 NKJ)*

1. *Whether we are talking about human seed, or the seed of plants or animals, we are talking about something wonderful – King David wrote - I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. (Psalm 139:14 NKJ)*

*In Genesis 1, we read – Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.<sup>12</sup> And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree*

*that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:11-12 NKJ)*

*“Seeds are masterpieces of micro-miniaturization! Inside each seed is a little baby, a little embryotic plant. It already has leaves, a stem and a root; surrounded by seed-coat and filled with all kinds of receptors listening into environmental signals, so it knows: what temperature, what moisture conditions, how much oxygen? All these things have to be present before it will sprout.” Dr. Gary Parker, God of Wonders*

*We count it a big deal we have smart, phones which are really mini-computers, that we might hold in our hands, or put it our pockets or in our purses. Yet, what a wonder is it that the tiny seed of a Sequoia tree (I could probably carry one hundred of them in one of my pockets) can grow into a tree over THREE HUNDRED feet tall which weighs many tons! It is a wonder too, that each seed has a DNA blueprint telling how tall, how big, what kind of plant will grow from it: an apple tree? A rose? An orange tree? Rice? Grapes? Olives? Palm trees? Tomatoes, potatoes, all grow from various kinds of seeds.*

2. *Human seed is wonderful too, we grow into wondrous, glorious creatures –*
- A. *Even the murder Cain’s murderous grandson Lamech had accomplished, inventive children*

**Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah.<sup>20</sup> And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock.<sup>21</sup> His brother’s name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute.<sup>22</sup> And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. ... (Genesis 4:19-22 NKJ)**

- B. *David was skilled with music himself, playing the harp and writing many of the Psalms –*

*Before he kills Goliath with a slingshot and a stone, he rids King Saul of a demon with his harp –*

**And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play *it* with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him. (1 Samuel 16:23 NKJ)**

*Albert Einstein, known for his own genius, after hearing the 14 year old Yehudi Menuhin, play violin with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, in 1930, said “Now, I know there’s a God in Heaven.”*

*Surely, our gifts were meant to be used for God’s glory –*  
**Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31 NKJ)**

*C. Did not Bathsheba have such beauty that David sinned to have her, though he knew he was committing adultery –*

**Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.<sup>3</sup> So David sent and inquired about the woman. And *someone* said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"<sup>4</sup> Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, ... 2 Samuel 11:2-4 NKJ)**

*All these verses, speak of a glory and beauty in nature, but because of sin it is a corrupt beauty, a short-lived, dying glory – because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, (1 Peter 1:24 NKJ)*

*II. The Word of God is the Seed of the New Birth and an incorruptible glory –*

**having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, ...<sup>25</sup> But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you. (1 Peter 1:23 & 25 NKJ)**

*1. The Bible, is the Word of God, we must have planted into our hearts –*

*James, the half-brother of Jesus tells us –*

**Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. (James 1:21 NKJ)**

*2. Note Jesus’ parable of the sower, about “seed” is about God’s Word –*

**Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow.<sup>4</sup> "And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. (Matt. 13:3-4 NKJ)**

**"Therefore hear the parable of the sower:<sup>19</sup> "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.<sup>20</sup> "But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;<sup>21</sup> "yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.<sup>22</sup> "Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.<sup>23</sup> "But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands *it*, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." (Matthew 13:18-23 NKJ)**

*III. There are two or three aspects of the New Birth:*

*1. The Spirit’s part, outside of our control –*

**"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8 NKJ)**

*2. The Word part –*

**So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17 NKJ)**

*A. Some do not have “ears to hear” –*

**"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 3:22 NKJ)**

*B. The WORD part, is also in a mighty sense, of the Spirit –*

"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. (John 6:63 NKJ)

C. *We are called to humility, about God's teaching, our hearing, learning -*

The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way. (Psalm 25:9 NKJ)

... they departed after Paul had said one word: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, <sup>26</sup> "saying, `Go to this people and say: "Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; And seeing you will see, and not perceive; <sup>27</sup> For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them." (Acts 28:25-27 NKJ)

Let us know, Let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter *and* former rain to the earth. (Hosea 6:3 NKJ)

3. *The repentance, breaking up your fallow ground part -*

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you. (Hosea 10:12 NKJ)

A. *Even this which seems so much our own doing, is a gift of God*

—

When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life." (Acts 11:18 NKJ)

B. *Even this is outside of our control –*

Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? *Then* may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil. (Jeremiah 13:23 NKJ)

I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. <sup>23</sup> But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. <sup>24</sup> O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this

body of death? <sup>25</sup> I thank God-- through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. (Romans 7:21-25 NKJ)

IV. *The WORD of God, the BIBLE, we must see as INCORRUPTIBLE SEED, with great life-giving, life-producing power –*

The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes; <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup> More to be desired *are they* than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup> Moreover by them Your servant is warned, *And* in keeping them *there is* great reward. (Psalm 19:7-11 NKJ)

1. *The law (word) of God is perfect – Psalm 19:7 A, nothing else apart from God Himself is –*

<sup>96</sup> I have seen the consummation of all perfection, *but* Your commandment *is* exceedingly broad. (Psalm 119:96 NKJ)

Consummation - קִיּוּם gets {kates} Meaning: 1) end

*By this the Psalmist in 119:96 means he seen the end of all other seeming perfection, human perfection does not last, is not real! Oh how beautiful a brand new car is ... even its smell, but after a while...*

*The Word of God, the Law of God, the Bible, never grows old, never is out of style or irrelevant, it is perfect – but Your commandment is exceedingly broad.*

2. *It has converting POWER - converting the soul; – Psalm 19:7 B*

A. *We cannot change ourselves –*

Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? *Then* may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil. (Jeremiah 13:23 NKJ)

B. *We are by nature, slaves to sin –*

Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (John 8:34 NKJ)

C. *It is the WORD, Jesus' Word, the Bible, the truth that can set us free, convert us from being sinners to Saints, starting by helping us to see the truth, we are slaves to SIN –*

As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. <sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed." <sup>32</sup> "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:30-32 NKJ)

D. *Part of this conversion is a making wise the simple, a rejoicing of the heart and an enlightening of the eyes –*

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes (Psalm 19:7C – 8)

*Oh, how wonderful these things happen, not only when we first believe, but all through our Christian lives, Jesus says "If you abide in My word – this means we continue in it, hold to it, remain faithful to God's Word -*

<sup>KJV</sup> **John 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;

<sup>KJV</sup> **John 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;

<sup>NIV</sup> **John 8:31** To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

<sup>NLT</sup> **John 8:31** Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.

<sup>RSV</sup> **John 8:31** Jesus then said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples,

*It is God's Word (law) in our hearts that will keep us from sin –  
Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!  
(Psalm 119:11 NKJ)*

3. *God's Word, directs us to Jesus Christ and through Him to eternal life –*

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. (John 5:39 NKJ)

*What does God's Word teach us about Jesus Christ? More than I can say in the rest of this sermon, so READ it! Study it, Look for Him in it, but two things:*

A. *Jesus is our STANDARD –*

"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> "Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 5:17-20 NKJ) *Jesus is perfect, Jesus is sinless, and unless our righteousness EQUALS HIS, we will be winless ...*

B. *Jesus is our Savior –*

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. <sup>23</sup> And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. <sup>24</sup> But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. <sup>25</sup> Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." <sup>29</sup> So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." (Matthew 14:22-33 NKJ) *Faith in Him is the KEY, true, continued faith – Romans 10:17*

*Arnold A. Brevick*