How Great is Our God?
Week 13 – Glory

Book recommendation: *A.W. Pink Attributes of God*

*** Communicable – We share with God*	***Incommunicable – Unique to God*
1. Love	10. Omniscience
2. Jealousy	11. Incomprehensibility
3. Graciousness	**12. Glory**
4. Just	
5. Wrath	
6. Merciful	
7. Goodness	
8. Faithfulness	
9. *Wisdom*	

Introduction

"The world was no doubt made, that it might be a theater of the divine glory."

What Does This Attribute Mean?

Glory: *Splendor, magnificence, brightness, praise ascribed in adoration; distinction, renown, honor*

Glorious: *Full of glory, illustrious, celebrated, magnificent…resplendent*

Biblical Definition:

Ex. 33:17 And the LORD said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." **18** Moses said, "Please show me your glory." **19** And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

Ex. 33:20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." **21** And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, **22** and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. **23** Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

Ex. 24:17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

Ex. 40:34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. **35** And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

CH Spurgeon Commenting on Exodus 33:
But when he offers this petition, "I beseech You, show me Your glory," he stands alone—a giant among giants—a colossus even in those days of mighty men! His request surpasses that of any other man—"I beseech You, show me Your glory." Among the lofty peaks and summits of man's prayer that rise like mountains to the skies, this is the culminating point. This is the highest elevation that faith ever gained—it is the loftiest place to which the great ambition of faith could climb—it is the topmost pillar of all the towering structures that confidence in God ever piled! I

am astonished that Moses himself should have been bold enough to supplicate so wondrous a favor. Surely, after he had uttered the desire, his bones must have trembled, his blood must have curdled in his veins and his hair must have stood on end! Did he not wonder at himself? Did he not tremble at his own boldness? We believe that such would have been the case had not the faith which prompted the prayer sustained him in the review of it! (CH Spurgeon sermon: Glory and Goodness, 1908)

New Testament Passage

Heb. 1:1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, **2** but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. **3** He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, **4** having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Thomas Watson

The glory that God has in himself, his intrinsic glory. Glory is essential to the Godhead, as light is to the sun: he is called the 'God of Glory' in Acts 7:2. Glory is the sparkling of the Deity; it is so co-natural to the Godhead, that God cannot be God without it. The creature's honour is not essential to his being. A king is a man without his regal ornaments, when his crown and royal robes are taken away; but God's glory is such an essential part of his being, that he cannot be God without it. God's very life lies in his glory. This glory can receive no addition, because it is infinite; it is that which God is most tender of, and which he will not part with. Isa 48:2: 'My glory I will not give to another.' God will give temporal blessings to his children, such as wisdom, riches, honour; he will give them spiritual blessings, he will give them grace, he will give them his love, he will give them heaven; but his essential glory he will not give to another. (Thomas Watson, Body of Divinity, P1).

Does Scripture Teach That God Exhibits This Attribute?

Psalms

Psa. 8:1 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Psa. 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Psa. 72:19 Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

2Chr. 7:1 As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. **2** And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house. **3** When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Isaiah:

Is. 42:8 I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

Is. 58:8 Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Is. 60:1 Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. **2** For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. **3** And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. **4** Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

Habakkuk

Hab. 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

New Testament:

John 11:38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." **40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

Rev. 21:9 Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." **10** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, **11** having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

Rev. 21:23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. **24** By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will

bring their glory into it, **25** and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

How Does This Attribute Affect the Christian?

God's Glory helps us know God

If we leave out a single attribute, we fail to understand God.

- God is glorious, his beauty and essence is of infinite value
    - It radiates throughout all of creation
- He is wise, and he knows all things
- He is all powerful, in all places, it eternal, and infinite
- He is 1 God, but 3 persons
- He is holy, righteous, perfect
- He is directing this perfect holy love, grace, and mercy at us
    - Personally & intimately
    - And, he is jealous for our love, affection, and faithfulness
- He is good and faithful, he is just and his wrath I directed at sin
- And he never changes,
- and while he is so great that we find him incomprehensible, he has made himself know through his word and through Jesus Christ

God's Glory should be our greatest treasure

God's glory leads us to humility

God's Glory is seen in Christ

Heb 1:3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power…

2Cor. 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.