

**The 1689 Confession of Faith; Chapter 2 – “Of God and the Holy Trinity”, Message #45 –
“The Glory of Eternity”, Presented in the Adult Sunday School Class by
Pastor Paul Rendall, on July 23rd, 2017.**

Paragraph 2 – God, having all (r) life, (s) glory, (t) goodness, blessedness, in and of Himself, is alone in and unto himself all sufficient, not (u) standing in need of any creature which he hath made, nor deriving any glory from them, but only manifesting His own glory in, by, unto, and upon them; He is the alone fountain of all being, (x) of whom, through whom, and to whom are all things, and He hath most sovereign (y) dominion over all creatures, to do by them, for them, or upon them, whatsoever Himself pleaseth; in his sight (z) all things are open and manifest, His knowledge is (a) infinite, infallible, and independent upon the creature, so as nothing is to Him contingent or uncertain; He is most holy in all his counsels, in (b)all his works, and in all his commands; to him is due (c) from angels and men, whatsoever worship, service, or obedience, as creatures they owe unto the Creator, and whatever He is further pleased to require of them.

(r) John 5: 26; (s) Psalm 148:13; (t) Psalm 119: 68; (u) Job 22 2-3; (x) Rom 11: 34-36; (y) Dan 4: 25, 34-35;

(z) Hebrews 4:13; (a) Ezekiel 11: 5; Acts 15: 18; (b) Psalm 145:17; (c) Rev 5:12-14

1. God has called all believers to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus.

1st Peter 5: 10 and 11 – “But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever.” “Amen.”

What does it mean that God has called us to His eternal glory? God’s calling us to eternal glory is His most definitely and powerfully and effectually working to bring us to the place where we have all of our indwelling remaining corruption removed from our lives and our bodies changed and transformed to be like Christ’s glorious body, for all of eternity future.

a. Our spirits will be made perfect at our death.

Hebrews 12: 22-24 – “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.”

b. Our bodies will await the resurrection of all the dead when Jesus returns.

1st John 3: 1-3 – “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

Matthew 13: 40-43 – “Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

Daniel 12: 1-3 – “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Everyone who is found written in the book.

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.”

Matthew Henry says on Daniel 12: 3 – “There shall be a glorious reward conferred on those who, in the day of trouble and distress, being themselves wise, did instruct many. Such were taken particular notice of in the prophecy of the persecution (Daniel 11: 33), that they should do eminent service, and yet should fall by the sword and by flame; now, if there were not another life after this, they would be of all men most miserable, and therefore we are here assured that they shall be recompensed in the resurrection of the just (Daniel 12: 3): Those that are wise (that are teachers, so some read it, for teachers have need of wisdom, and those that have wisdom themselves should communicate it to others) shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, shall shine in glory, heavenly glory, the glory of the upper world; and those that by the wisdom they have, and the instructions they give, are instrumental to turn any, especially to turn many to righteousness, shall shine as the stars for ever and ever.

Note, 1. There is a glory reserved for all the saints in the future state, for all that are wise, wise for their souls and eternity. A man's wisdom now makes his face to shine (Ecclesiastes 8: 1), but much more will it do so in that state where its power shall be perfected and its services rewarded. 2. The more good any do in this world, especially to the souls of men, the greater will be their glory and reward in the other world. Those that turn men to righteousness, that turn sinners from the errors of their ways and help to save their souls from death (James 5: 20), will share in the glory of those they have helped to heaven, which will be a great addition to their own glory. 3. Ministers of Christ, who have obtained mercy of him to be faithful and successful, and so are made burning and shining lights in this world, shall shine very brightly in the other world, shall shine as the stars. Christ is the sun, the fountain, of the lights both of grace and glory; ministers, as stars, shine in both, with a light derived from him, and a diminutive light in comparison of him; yet to those that are earthen vessels it will be a glory infinitely transcending their deserts. They shall shine as the stars of different magnitudes, some in less, others in greater lustre; but, whereas the day is coming when the stars shall fall from heaven as leaves in autumn, these stars shall shine for ever and ever, shall never set, never be eclipsed.