

Sunday, July 16, 2017

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Glory to God Alone

Isaiah 48:9-11

(black Bibles page 609; Children's Bibles page 885)

Outline

Series review

- The beggar and the King: this illustrates faith alone, grace alone, Christ alone.
 - The five *solas* are simple! They preserve simple truths, and they provide a foundation for life and thought.
 - They are simple, but not *easy*. They can feel like heart surgery!

Consider John 3:16 and the four *solas* we've covered so far.

J. S. Bach began his compositions with *Jesu Juva* or *J. J.*: "Jesus, help!" He ended them with *Soli Deo Gloria*, or *SDG*: Glory to God alone!

What is glory? (It's hard to define!)

1. It's associated with **light**, or being **visible**. *Seeing* it. "Lord, show me your glory." – Moses. It is **God's perfection made visible**.
2. It's associated with **praise**. "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory!" (Psalm 115:1)

Why glory to God alone?

1. He is *jealous* for his own glory. (Isaiah 48:9-11)
2. If there were anything better than God, we should give glory to that/him/whatever!
3. Salvation is *His* work alone! Grace alone, Christ alone – therefore Glory to God alone.

The surprise: we are glorified!

- "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." (Col 3:3-4; see Rom 8:17)
 - Note why: because of our union with Christ! (see Hebrews 1:3)

Two final questions:

1. How then shall we live? "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God!" (1 Corinthians 10:31; see Westminster Shorter Catechism Q1)
2. What's the future hold for the glory of God?
 - a. "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." (Habakkuk 2:14)
 - b. The glory of God replaces the sun! "And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives its light, and its lamp is the Lamb." (Revelation 21:23)

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