

God's Passion for His Glory

The Whole Bible: Represented in Isaiah 43.7

Main Idea

What God up to in the world?

He is up to spreading a passion for His glory all around the world.

Overview

God's Passion for His Glory in Creation:

- Genesis 1.26-28: God creates mankind in His own image in order that he/she would image/display Him into all the world
 - This is seen in God's command to be fruitful and multiply these image bearers and having them rule over, subdue, have dominion in creation in a manner that images God
 - In short, God desires worshipers that reflect His glory that fill the world
- Genesis 3.3-7: Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
 - In doing so they lied about what God is like in having creation (serpent) rule over them instead of them ruling over creation as they were commanded
 - We also see that Adam and Eve desired to be "like God" (vs. 5) instead of giving glory to God alone
 - Sin/Shame/Death entered into the world because of their disobedience

God's Passion for His Glory in Abraham:

- Genesis 11.4: Humanity, yet again, tries to make a name for themselves instead of making a name for God as they were designed
- God works against this sinful desire by making a name for Abraham which would go onto produce a name/glory for the one true God who initiated this covenant: See Genesis 12.1-2
 - Abraham gave glory to God in his faith: Romans 4.20

God's Passion for His Glory in the Exodus of His People:

- Exodus 14.8: God is acting that the Egyptians would know who has the glory
- Psalm 106.8: God delivers His people out of Egypt for His Namesake (glory)
- Exodus 20.1-7: The first three commands of the 10 commandments are directed at proper worship of the One True God

God's Passion for His Glory in the Conquest of the Good Land:

- Joshua 24.13-14: God delivers them into a good land in order that they would fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and faithfulness

God's Passion for His Glory in the Establishment of Kings:

- Acts 13.22: God chose a man that was known as a "man after God's own heart"
- Psalm 23.3: He prays that God would lead him in paths of righteousness for HIS namesake

God's Passion for His Glory in the Temple:

- 1 Kings 8.41-43: Solomon prays that foreigners would come "in order that ALL peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you as do your people Israel"
- Isaiah 43.7: God created His people for His glory

God's Passion for His Glory in the Exile:

- Ezekiel 36.22-23: The Lord is acting in the Exile for the good of His Name

God's Passion for His Glory in the Gospel:

- Ephesians 1.5-6: God redeemed sinners to the praise of His glorious grace
- John 17.1-5, John 12.27-28: Jesus' prayer for His mission is to bring about the glory of God
- 2 Corinthians 4.6: Salvation gives us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ

- 2 Thessalonians 1.9: Hell exists as a place to keep people “away from the glory of His might”

God’s Passion for His Glory in Heaven:

- Revelation 21.22-24: There will be no need of sun or moon as the glory of the Lamb will shine
- 1 Corinthians 10.31: We should do all to the glory of the Lord now in anticipation for its final consummation

Questions

Discussion Starter: Based on some of your evangelistic conversations, what have the unbelievers around you understood the Gospel was ultimately about?

1. Reading through each/some of these accounts of the main story line of the Bible, how would you describe what God is up to in the world? Is this arrogant and therefore bad/wrong of God? Why/why not?
2. What does it mean to “Glorify God”?
3. Read through John 17.1-5 what is the “the hour” and how does it interact with the prayer of Jesus?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 10.31. How and why does the Gospel make this possible?
5. In what way does Loving God and loving others with God in order that God would be glorified serve to free us to live lives of greater joy and pleasure than if we were left to only pursue our own glory?
6. 7. In what ways is your understanding of the Gospel/Christianity helped/changed by this line of thinking?
7. 8. Share some ways in which you have seen others doing this in order to illustrate what this looks like.

Accountability: Take some time to identify evidences of God’s grace and glory in the lives of one another. Spend extended time in prayer requesting the Lord to manifest His glory in the life of our church.