

Message Notes

"The Glory and the Manger"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – "Glory? What's that?"

Definition of Glory

The Great Christmas Declaration
Luke 2:8-14

THE GLORY AND THE MANGER

7 snapshots from Scripture of the Glory of God

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Exodus 33:12-34:7
- 2. The creation screams God's Glory**
Psalm 19:1
- 3. When God wants to work through a person, the first thing they get is a vision of His Glory**
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- 6. The Glory of God is returns to earth much more powerfully that ever before in Jesus Christ**
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Revelation 4:6-11

Revelation 5:11-13

Revelation 21:22-25

Application – "Are you living and thrilled by the glory of God?"
Romans 3:23

1 Corinthians 10:31

Exodus 33:12-34:7

¹²Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' ¹³If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

¹⁴The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

¹⁵Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us?

What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

¹⁷And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

¹⁸Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

¹⁹And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

²¹Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

¹The LORD said to Moses, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. ²Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain. ³No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain."

⁴So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. ⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation."

Please use a pew Bible for the remainder of the passages

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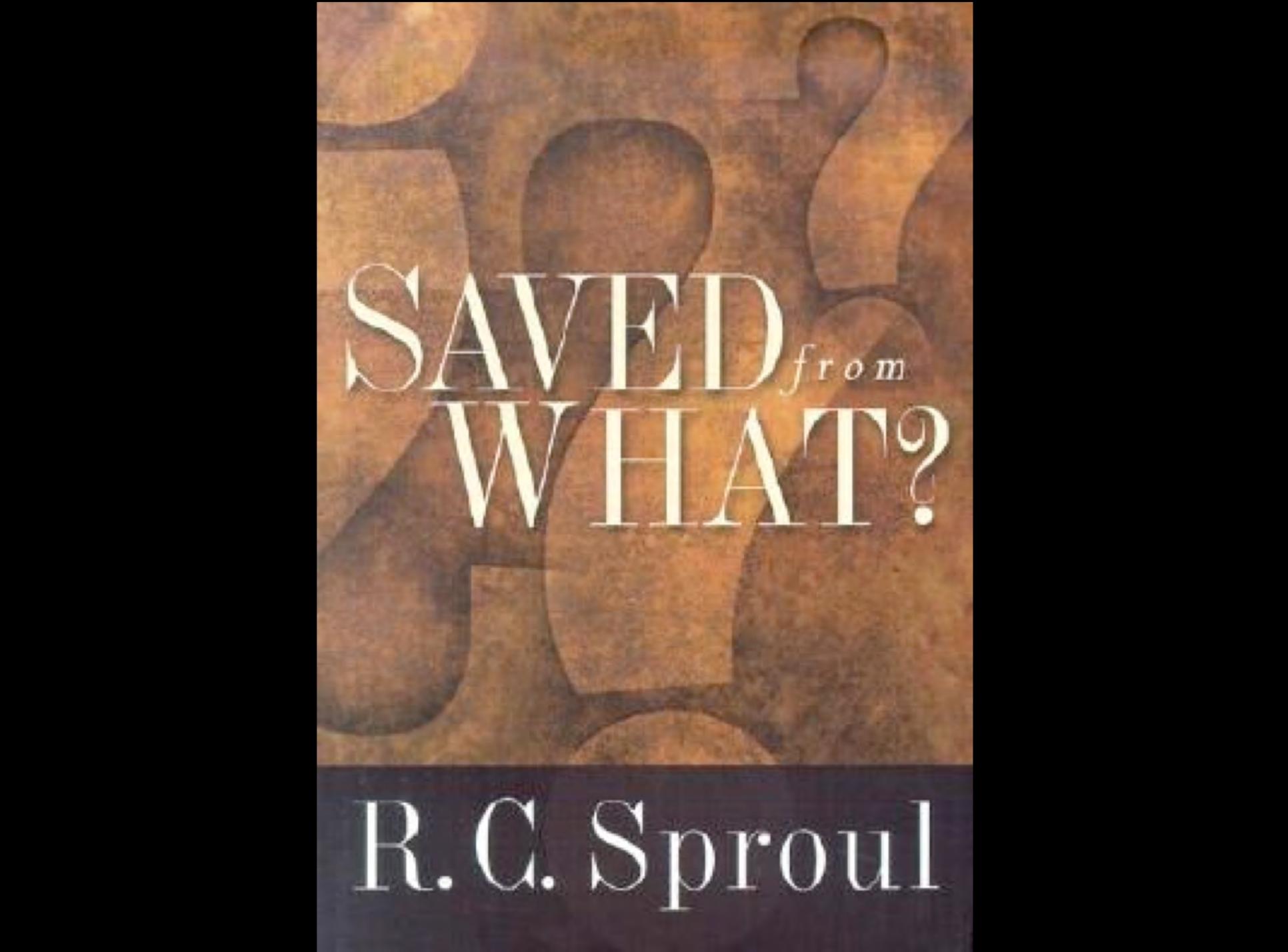
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SAVED *from*
WHAT?

R. C. Sproul

The Incarnation:

A Biblical Theology of Christmas

The Incarnation:

A Biblical Theology of Christmas

**Week FIVE: The Glory of God
and The Manger**

The Christmas Declaration

Luke 2:8-14

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

What is the Glory of God?

What is the Glory of God?

“The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of his manifold perfections.”

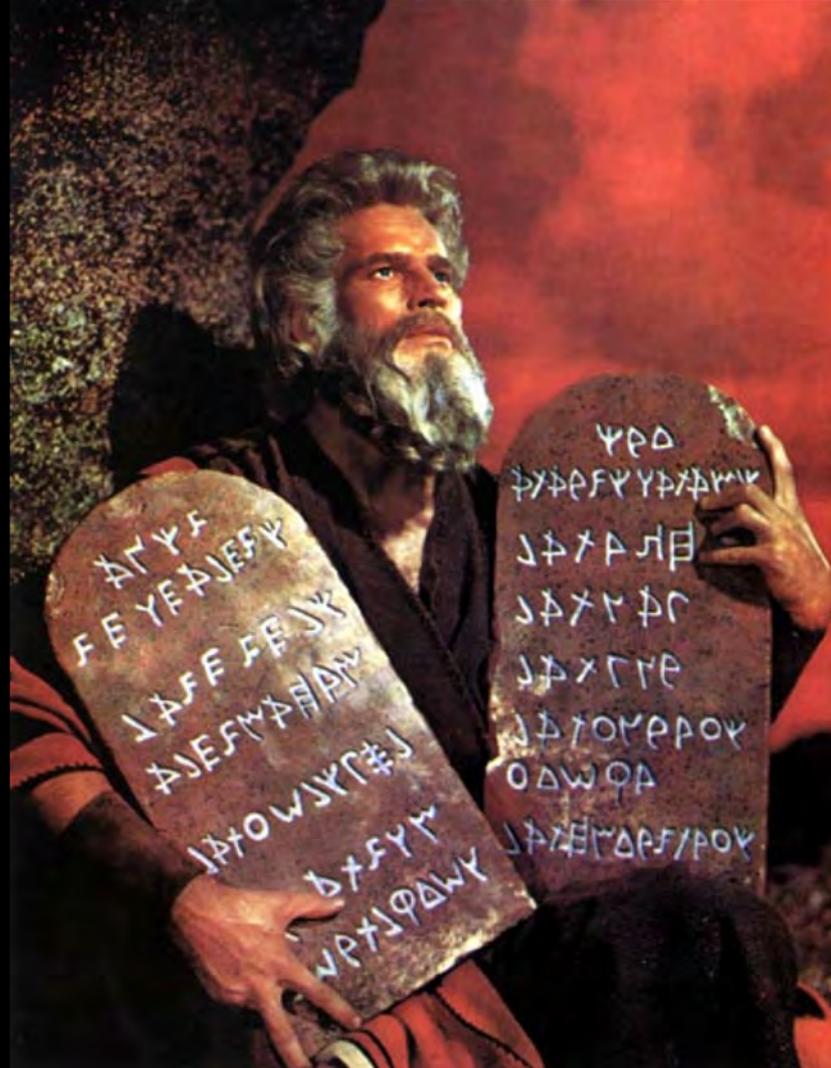
~ John Piper

Snapshots



7 snapshots of the Glory of God

1. The First Occurrence of God revealing His Glory



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7 snapshots of the Glory of God

2. The creation *screams* God's Glory



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Psalm 19:1

¹The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

3. When God wants to work through a prophet, the first thing they get is a vision of His Glory



Raphael, *The Prophet Isaiah*
Fresco 1511-12, Sant'Agostino, Rome

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Raphael, *The Prophet Isaiah*
Fresco 1511-12, Sant'Agostino, Rome



Raphael, *Vision of Ezekiel* Oil on wood 1518 , Galleria Palatina,

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

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a. The Calling of Isaiah
Isaiah 6:1-4

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Isaiah 6:1-4

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”⁴At the sound of their voices
the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled
with smoke.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

3. When God wants to work through a prophet, the first thing they get is a vision of His Glory

b. The Calling of Ezekiel
Ezekiel 1:2-27

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Ezekiel 1:2-27

²On the fifth of the month – it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin – ³the word of the LORD came to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, by the Kebar River in the land of the Babylonians. There the hand of the LORD was upon him.

⁴I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north – an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. The center of the fire looked like glowing metal, ⁵and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was that of a man, ⁶but each of them had four faces and four wings. ⁷Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze.

⁸Under their wings on their four sides they had the hands of a man. All four of them had faces and wings, ⁹and their wings touched one another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

¹⁰Their faces looked like this: Each of the four had the face of a man, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle. ¹¹Such were their faces. Their wings were spread out upward; each had two wings, one touching the wing of another creature on either side, and two wings covering its body. ¹²Each one went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they went. ¹³The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it. ¹⁴The creatures sped back and forth like flashes of lightning.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

¹⁵As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the ground beside each creature with its four faces. ¹⁶This was the appearance and structure of the wheels: They sparkled like chrysolite, and all four looked alike. Each appeared to be made like a wheel intersecting a wheel. ¹⁷As they moved, they would go in any one of the four directions the creatures faced; the wheels did not turn about as the creatures went. ¹⁸Their rims were high and awesome, and all four rims were full of eyes all around.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

¹⁹When the living creatures moved, the wheels beside them moved; and when the living creatures rose from the ground, the wheels also rose. ²⁰Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, and the wheels would rise along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. ²¹When the creatures moved, they also moved; when the creatures stood still, they also stood still; and when the creatures rose from the ground, the wheels rose along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

²²Spread out above the heads of the living creatures was what looked like an expanse, sparkling like ice, and awesome. ²³Under the expanse their wings were stretched out one toward the other, and each had two wings covering its body. ²⁴When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

²⁵Then there came a voice from above the expanse over their heads as they stood with lowered wings. ²⁶Above the expanse over their heads was what looked like a throne of sapphire, and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. ²⁷I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him. ²⁸Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him.

b. The Calling of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:2-27

This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.
When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one
speaking.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

4. The Glory of God *departs* the temple and from the people of Israel!



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Ezekiel 10:18-20

¹⁸Then the glory of the LORD departed from over the threshold of the temple and stopped above the cherubim. ¹⁹While I watched, the cherubim spread their wings and rose from the ground, and as they went, the wheels went with them. They stopped at the entrance to the east gate of the LORD's house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them. ²⁰These were the living creatures I had seen beneath the God of Israel by the Kebar River, and I realized that they were cherubim.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

5. 400 Years of Silence...

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

6. The Glory of God returns to earth much more powerfully than ever before in Jesus Christ



7 snapshots of the Glory of God

6. The Glory of God returns to earth much more powerfully than ever before in Jesus Christ

a. Birth and Life

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

6. The Glory of God returns to earth much more powerfully that ever before in Jesus Christ

b. Death

John 13:31-32

³¹ When he [Judas] was gone, Jesus said,
“Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

6. The Glory of God returns to earth much more powerfully that ever before in Jesus Christ

b. Death

John 13:31-32

³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said,

“Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him.

Hebrews 2:9

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

6. The Glory of God returns to earth much more powerfully than ever before in Jesus Christ

c. Resurrection

Romans 6:4

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven



JACOBELLO ALBEREGNO, *Polyptych of the Apocalypse*, 1360-90, Tempera on panel, Gallerie dell'Accademia, Venice

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 4:6-11

⁶In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. ⁷The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. ⁸Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings.

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 4:6-11

Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.”

⁹Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 4:6-11

¹¹“You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.”

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 5:11-13

¹¹Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders.

¹²In a loud voice they sang:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!”

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 5:11-13

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!”

7 snapshots of the Glory of God

7. The Glory of God as it is and will be in heaven

Revelation 21:22-25

²²I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there.

Application

How do we fit in with this?

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Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

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For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God.