



## Glory Alone

Lesson Fifteen

### How Does God Justify the Ungodly?

- ❖ **Sola Gratia:** *By Freely Choosing to Give the Ungodly the Gift of His Grace Alone!*  
*Isaiah 48:11; Deuteronomy 7:5-8; 1Corinthians 1:26-31; Romans 9:14-18*
- ❖ **Christus Solus:** *By Graciously Exchanging Their Sin for His Righteousness in Christ Alone!*  
*Romans 5:19, 21; 3:23-24; 16:25-27; Jude 25; 2Corinthians 5:21*
- ❖ **Sola Fide:** *By Justly Declaring the Ungodly to Be Justified by Faith Alone!*  
*Romans 3:21-23; 4:20; 5:17*
- ❖ **Sola Scriptura:** *By Uniquely Revealing This Good News According to Scripture Alone!*  
*Romans 3:21; 16:25-27; 10:14-17*
- ❖ **Soli Deo Gloria:** *By Completely Ensuring that All the Glory Goes to Him alone!*  
*Jeremiah 9:23-24; 1Corinthians 1:26-31; Romans 15:17-18; Galatians 6:14-15; 1Corinthians 3:21-23; 4:7; 2Corinthians 12:9; 15:9-11; Ephesians 2:8-10*

#### Confessions

##### Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Question:** *What is the chief end of man?*

**Answer:** Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

##### Cambridge Declaration

**We reaffirm** that because salvation is of God and has been accomplished by God, it is for God's glory and that we must glorify Him always. We must live our entire lives before the face of God, under the authority of God and for his glory alone.

**We deny** that we can properly glorify God if our worship is confused with entertainment, if we neglect either Law or Gospel in our preaching, or if self-improvement, self-esteem or self-fulfillment are allowed to become alternatives to the gospel.

#### Affirmations

"The ultimate aim of the gospel is the display of God's glory." – John Piper

"The glory of God shines, indeed, in all creatures on high and below, but never more brightly than in the cross." – John Calvin

"To trust in works...is equivalent to giving oneself the honor and taking it from God, to Whom fear is due in connection with every work." – Martin Luther

"If any man ascribes of salvation, even the very least, to the free will of man, he knows nothing of grace, and he has not learned Jesus Christ aright."  
– Martin Luther

"Let our chief goal, O God, be your glory, and to enjoy You forever." – John Calvin

### To God Alone Be the Glory!

*Romans 11:33-36*

#### What Is Romans 11:33-36?

- ❖ A **DOXOLOGY**: *Delighting in giving God the glory He deserves in word, in song, and in life!*

*Our theology should sing like a hymn, not read like a telephone book!*

#### Why Is Romans 11:33-36 Here?

- ❖ To remind us that **THEOLOGY** should always lead to doxology: *God's glory-showing requires glory-giving!*

### Four Reasons Why God Alone Gets All the Glory for Our Salvation

#### 1. God's WILL in Saving the Underserving Is Unfathomable! *Romans 11:33a*

- ❖ **Oh, My God!** The **MERCY** of Your **riches** is unfathomable!

*Romans 2:4; 9:22-23; 10:12-13; 11:2; Ephesians 1:5-9, 17-19; 2:4-6*

- ❖ **Oh, My God!** The **MYSTERY** of Your **wisdom** is unfathomable!

*Romans 1:21-25; 11:25; 12:16*

#### **Why Is God's Wisdom in Saving Us an Unfathomable Mystery?**

- 1) Because God's wisdom in salvation is **CONCEALED** in Christ! *Colossians 1:27; 2:2*
- 2) Because God's wisdom in salvation was **DISPLAYED** on the cross! *1Corinthians 1:18-25; 2:6-10*
- 3) Because God's wisdom in salvation is **PREDESTINED** for whomever He chooses! *Ephesians 1:5-9, 17-18*
- 4) Because God's wisdom in salvation is **REVEALED** to everyone by His Word through His Church! *Ephesians 3:8-10*

- ❖ **Oh, My God!** The **MAJESTY** of Your **knowledge** is unfathomable!

*Romans 8:29; 11:2; See also 1:18-21, 32; 2:2-4, 17-24; 3:17-19; 6:3, 16; 7:1; 10:2; 11:2; 15:14*

## **2. God's WAYS in Saving the Underserving Are Untraceable! *Romans 11:33b***

- ❖ **Oh, My God!** The judgments of Your **sovereign purposes** are **UNSEARCHABLE!**
- ❖ **Oh, My God!** The ways of Your **saving plan** are **UNTRACEABLE!**

## **3. God's WORTHINESS in Saving the Underserving Is Unmatchable! *Romans 11:34-35***

### **Our Unworthiness Compared to His Worthiness**

- ❖ **Who Am I?** Do I really think I can **out-think** God and figure out His **MIND**?  
*"For who has known the mind of the Lord..."*
- ❖ **Who am I?** Do I really think I can **out-maneuver** God and give Him **ADVICE**?  
*"or who became His counselor?"*
- ❖ **Who Am I?** Do I really think I can out-give God and make Him my **DEBTOR**?  
*"Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again?"*

## **4. God's WORSHIP for Saving the Underserving Is Unbeatable! *Romans 11:36***

- ❖ **Glory to God Alone!** For all things are **from** God: *You are the **SOURCE** of all things!*
- ❖ **Glory to God Alone!** For all things are **through** God: *You are the **SUSTAINER** of all things!*
- ❖ **Glory to God Alone!** For all things are **for** God: *You are the **SOVEREIGN** over all things!*

### **Delight in Giving God the Glory He Alone Deserves!**

*"To Him be the glory forever! Amen! It is true! Let it be!"*

"It is because all things are from, through and to God that the glory must be His alone. This is why human pride is so offensive. Pride is behaving as if we were God Almighty, strutting around the earth as if we owned the place, repudiating our due dependence on God, pretending instead that all things depend on us, and thus arrogating to ourselves the glory which belongs to God alone." – John Stott

"All the different ways God has chosen to display his glory in creation and redemption seem to reach their culmination in the praises of His redeemed people." – John Piper

"If you don't feel strong desires for the manifestation of the glory of God, it is not because you have drunk deeply and are satisfied. It is because you have nibbled so long at the table of the world. Your soul is stuffed with small things, and there is no room for the great." – John Piper

"Resolved: that every man should live to the glory of God. Resolved second: that whether others do this or not I will." – Martin Luther

- ❖ **The WHATSOEVER of God's Glory:** *Pursue the Gospel in All Things!* *1Corinthians 10:31; 1Peter 4:11; Colossians 3:17*
- ❖ **The WHOSOEVER of God's Glory:** *Proclaim the Gospel to All Peoples!* *1Corinthians 10:32-33; Psalm 96; Romans 15:7-12*