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## GETTING A RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

### *Session 2: The Worth & Beauty of God*

#### I. 3 Main Truths

- A. Seeing the beauty of God is essential for victory and growth in God.
- B. This is within reach of every single believer.
- C. There is a lie filling the Earth: Jesus is boring. The truth is that He is indescribably magnificent.

*9 I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet 11 saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."*

*12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.*

*17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.*

*Re 1:9–18*

"God's beauty (glory, majesty) speaks of all that is attractive about Him. It includes how He thinks and feels, what He does, how He looks, and the power and knowledge He possesses. His beauty is displayed in His creation, redemption, leadership, and even how He designed humans to interact."

- Mike Bickle

#### II. Determination

Pursuing the revelation of God's Beauty is a lifestyle, not an event.

A. King David's Example

One of King David's lifelong goals was to be intentional about beholding God's beauty regularly. He prioritized seeing God's beauty and delighting in his relationship with God. The biblical vision of the Christian life is a lifestyle of enjoying relationship with God by delighting in His beauty.

One thing I have desired...all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord.  
Ps. 27:4

Delight yourself in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.  
Ps. 37:4

B. Paul

If we can see what Paul saw about Jesus, then we can respond to Him like Paul did.

*I also count all things loss for the excellence [beauty] of the knowledge of Christ.*  
Phil. 3:8

*We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.*  
2 Cor. 3:18

C. Westminster Shorter Catechism (1600s)

The Chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

*Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.*  
Isaiah 60:21

*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.*  
Romans 11:36

*For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.... Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*  
1 Corinthians 6:20, 10:31

*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*  
Revelation 4:11

*The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. The*

*lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons. I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*

Psalm 16:5-11

*Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.*

Psalm 144:15

*Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.*

Isaiah 12:2

D. John Piper (1970s)

The chief end of man is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever.

### III. Transformation

The beauty that God possesses is the same beauty that He imparts into us by His grace at our salvation! The problem for us is that it is hidden and we don't really see it in this lifetime. But we will see it in the resurrection to come.

*For you 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.*

Colossians 3:3-4

*Don't let your beauty consist of outward things like elaborate hairstyles and wearing gold jewelry, but rather what is inside the heart - the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.*

1 Peter 3:3-4

### IV. Grow in Our Ability to Delight in God's Beauty

A. Prophesied Reality

Isaiah prophesied that the Spirit would emphasize King Jesus' beauty (33:17) in the generation of His return, and that God's people will find stability and strength by delighting in His beauty (33:6).

*Your eyes will see the King in His beauty, you will see a vast land.*

Isaiah 33:17

*There will be times of security for you - a storehouse of salvation, wisdom and knowledge. The fear of the Lord is Zion's treasure.*  
Isaiah 33:6

- B. We grow in our delight of His beauty by meditating on, blessing (praising), and declaring (sharing) it (Ps. 145:5-12). As we verbalize what we see about God's beauty, our insight and delight increase. We receive more from the Spirit as we declare God's beauty in worship and share it with others.

*5I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty [beauty] ...6I will declare Your greatness ...10Your saints shall bless You. 11They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom.*  
Ps. 145:5-11

1. Meditating on God: Searching out and thinking deeply on who He is and what He has done
2. Blessing/praising God: Speaking what we see back to God with gratitude and delight
3. Declaring/sharing with others: Sharing what we admire about God so others delight in Him

- C. "We delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment." C. S. Lewis
- D. God is glorified when we discern and delight in His beauty. We glorify and magnify God by treasuring, celebrating, and making much of His name and beauty. We glorify God when what we know of Him empowers us to enjoy Him, and by delighting in who He is and declaring it to others.
- E. Paul persistently prayed for others to receive greater insight into the beauty of God.

*17 that...the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened.*  
Eph. 1:17-18