

Bodily Glorification

I. Introduction & Definition

A. 1st Cor. 6:20 “For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

1. For you have been bought with a price. ἠγοράσθητε γὰρ τιμῆς.
aor.pass.ind. ἀγοράζω #59: *to be in the market place, to buy or sell.*
2. Therefore glorify God in your body. δοξάσατε δὴ τὸν θεὸν ἐν τῷ σώματι ὑμῶν.
 - a. aor.act.imper. δοξάζω #1392: *to influence one’s opinion about another so as to enhance the latter’s reputation, praise, honor, extol.* Fr. δόξα #1391: *rel. to opinion, judgment, view: praise, honor, glory.* (δοκέω #1380: *to be of opinion, think, suppose.*)
 - b. dat.sing.neut. σώμα #4983: *body.* Dative of sphere: *in your body.* Dative of instrument: *with your body.*

B. Great definition of Glorification in 1st Chr. 16:28&29 (Ps. 29:1-2; 96:7-9).

1. Ascribe to the LORD glory & strength; the glory due His name. כְּבוֹד שְׁמֵוּ.
 - a. יהב qal.imper. yahab #3051: *to give, provide, ascribe.*
 - b. כְּבוֹד kabowd #3519: *abundance, honour, glory.* The LORD’s glory is seen in the temple (Ps. 63:2).
 - c. שֵׁם shem #8034: *name, reputation, character.* The LORD’s name is a name of glory (Ps. 72:19; Neh. 9:5).

The LORD is the God of Glory (Ps. 29:3).

2. Bring an offering, and come before Him. וְבָאוּ מִנְחָהּ וּבָאוּ לְפָנָיו.

- a. נָשָׂא #5375: qal.imper. *to bear, carry, bring.*
- b. מִנְחָהּ minchah #4503: *offering, gift, tribute, sacrifice.*

P= Do not appear before the Lord empty-handed! (Ex. 23:15; 34:20; Deut. 16:16)

- c. בא qal.imper. bo’ #935: *to go, come.*
 - d. פָּנִים panim #6440: *face, presence.*
3. Worship the Lord in holy array. וְשָׁתַחֲוּוּ לַיהוָה בְּהַדְרֵת־קֹדֶשׁ.
 - a. שָׁחָהּ hithpael.imper. shachah #7812: *to bow down, prostrate oneself, worship.*
 - b. הַדְרָהּ h^adarah #1927: *adornment, glory.* Ugaritic parallels present wonderful testimony to “holy array.”
The emphasis is on the Lord, and not necessarily our garments there. A translation could be: “prostrate yourselves before the Lord when he appears in holiness.” (TWOT)

C. Pastor Bob’s definition—Glorify: to communicate and/or demonstrate by thought, word, and deed the high regard of worthiness that God’s Being is due.

II. Development & Application

A. The believer’s actions in the physical body are either subject to the Sin Nature or to the Holy Spirit (Rom. 6:19).

1. Negative volition leads to even more negative volition.
2. Positive volition leads to even more positive volition in the sphere of experiential sanctification.

B. Selfish living is of the flesh, but living on behalf of Jesus Christ is how we glorify God in our bodies (2nd Cor. 5:14,15).

1. The dead live for themselves.
2. The living ought to live for Christ.
3. By living for Christ the believer communicates and demonstrates the high regard (glory) that Christ is entitled to. In this way, the believer “glorifies” God in his body.

C. Making volitional choices by means of faith, in direct application of the Word of God is how we glorify God in our bodies (1st Cor. 10:31 cf. Rom. 14:21-23).

1. In the sphere of doubtful things the one who eats meat sacrificed to idols and the one who does not eat meat sacrificed to idols can both do so for the glory of God.
2. In the sphere of doubtful things the one who drinks alcoholic beverages and the one who does not drink alcoholic beverages can both do so for the glory of God.
3. Any matter that is neither commanded nor prohibited is a matter for Christian liberty, subject to the Law of Love (1st Cor. 10:31-33).
4. The volitional choice a believer makes under the Law of Liberty or the Law of Love must be made on the basis of faith (Rom. 14:21-23).

5. By making faith decisions throughout daily life according to the Word of God, the believer communicates and demonstrates the high regard (glory) that God's Word is entitled to. In this way, the believer "glorifies" God in his body.
- D. Urging a believer to "give glory to God" equals telling them to do the right thing in applying God's Word (Jn. 9:24).
 1. Unbelievers and carnal believers can use Biblical vocabulary to lure a faithful believer.
 2. The truth always gives glory to God because God is True (Jn. 3:33; Rom. 3:4).
 - E. Earthly shame or exaltation produce heavenly shame or exaltation for Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:20).
 1. The degree of suffering in the fulfillment of the will of God is irrelevant.
 2. This mental attitude requires fervent prayer and produces expectation and hope.
 - F. The believer's day to day life in their physical bodies is a living sacrifice, glorifying God in their spiritual service of worship.
 1. Presenting our bodies to God for His service is true worship (Rom. 12:1).
 2. The Word of God transforms the believer and renews the mind, equipping the believer to demonstrate the will of God (Rom. 12:2; 2nd Tim. 2:15).
 3. By learning the Word and living the work, the believer communicates and demonstrates the high regard (glory) that God's work-assignments are entitled to. In this way, the believer "glorifies" God in his body.
 - G. The believer's day to day life in their physical bodies is a shining light to this lost and dying world, for the glory of God the Father (Matt. 5:16).
 1. The believer must be willing to conduct their lives as living witnesses for Jesus Christ.
 2. By living as an Ambassador for Christ, the believer communicates and demonstrates the high regard (glory) that the Gospel is entitled to. In this way, the believer "glorifies" God in his body.
 - H. A purpose clause for the Church's existence is to proclaim the excellencies of (glorify) God (1st Pet. 2:9).
 - I. The dispensation of the Church is a stewardship of unveiled face and glory (2nd Cor. 3:7-8).
- III. Concluding Warnings—Acts 12:23
- A. Failure to give God the glory prompts Divine discipline (Acts 12:23 cf. Isa. 48:11).
 - B. Ultimately, rebellion against God sets up one's self as a god (Ex. 10:3; Ezek. 28:2,9; Dan. 4:30-37; 2nd Thess. 2:3,4).
 - C. Peter insisted that all glory (worship) be given to God alone (Acts 10:25,26), as did Barnabas & Paul (Acts 14:14,15), and an angel in heaven (Rev. 22:8,9).
 - D. Believers committed to glorifying God must never forget the Divine protocol of glorifying the Father through the Son by the power of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 5:23; 14:6; 17:4,5,9,10,22-24).