

The Glory of the Lord Revealed, Part 2

Hebrews 1:1-3
12/15/96 ABC

CS Lewis portrayed the growing Christian's experience of an ever-enlarging Jesus in his *Chronicles of Narnia*. Lucy, caught up in her spiritual quest, saw the lion Aslan, Jesus, shining white & huge in the moonlight. In a burst of emotion Lucy rushed to him, burying her face in the rich silkiness of his mane. The great beast then rolled over on his side so that Lucy fell, half-sitting & half-lying between his front paws. He bent forward & touched her nose with his tongue. She gazed up into his large, wise face.

Welcome, child, he said.

Aslan, said Lucy, *you're bigger.*

That is because you are older, little one, he answered.

Lucy asked, *Not because you are?*

Aslan answered, *I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger.*¹

Why do I start with that this morning? Because as we get to know Jesus He's always getting *bigger*.

This morning we continue to look at God's glory being revealed in the incarnation, the birth of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. If we're to know anything about God it will only be by His revealing Himself to us. We cannot, by ourselves, understand God any more than an ant can understand us. Nor can we lower ourselves to its level & communicate with it. But God descended to our level & communicates with us. God became a man Himself & entered our world to tell us about Himself more fully & completely than He did through creation of His prophets. Because mankind is incapable of identifying, comprehending, or understanding God at all, God had to invade this world & reveal Himself to us. God's glory is the Christmas story. We began last week by looking at how God has revealed His glory in the past. God displays His glory in His creation. Everything that exists displays His glory. He's shown His glory in the OT through His Shekinah. Even though we can't comprehend this any more than Ezekiel did, it adds to what God's revealed of Himself. God revealed even more of His glory when He spoke through the prophets of the OT. When God spoke through them He began to fill in the outline He'd given through creation & the Shekinah. God revealed Himself in bits & pieces in the OT. Every piece true, but incomplete. The OT is only a part of God's truth, but it isn't partially His truth. It's not His complete truth, but it is completely His truth. It is God's revelation, His

¹ C.S. Lewis, *Prince Caspian*, pp 122-124

progressive revelation preparing His people for the coming of His Son, Jesus Christ, who is the glory of the Lord revealed. Jesus is God's final Word. God murmurs in His creation, whispers in His shekinah, speaks in His Word, & shouts in the revelation of His glory in Jesus. Jesus is greater than the prophets. He's greater than any revelation in the OT because He's the fulfillment of all that & more. God has fully expressed Himself in Jesus. The opening vss of Hebrews (turn there) have been called *the most sonorous piece of Greek in the whole NT*.² With these opening words we're brought face-to-face with the God who speaks both in the past & in the present. **1-3**

Even before the prophets of old, the universe was filled with God's glory. The vastness & orderliness of all of creation declares the necessity of a magnificent & glorious God. But He didn't stop there. The author says God spoke through His **prophets in many portions or parts & in many ways**. The emphasis here is on the diversity of God's speech in the OT. God spoke to Moses at Sinai in thunder & lightning & with the voice of a trumpet. He whispered to Elijah at Horeb with a **gentle blowing** (1 Kgs 19:12). Ezekiel was informed by visions & Daniel through dreams. God appeared to Abram in human form & to Jacob as an angel. & when God's prophets spoke, they used nearly every method to communicate their message. Amos gave oracles from God. Malachi used Q & A. Ezekiel performed bizarre symbolic acts. Haggai preached sermons & Zechariah used mysterious signs. The significance of this creative communication is that it dramatically demonstrates God's desire to communicate with His people. But in all of this, God's revelation of Himself wasn't complete. But, thankfully, **in these last days has spoken to us in His Son** (2). Jesus is God's final word. He's the ultimate medium of communication. There are similarities between the opening vss of John & Hebrews. John writes, **In the beginning was the Word, & the Word was with God, & the Word was God** (Jn 1:1). This has been paraphrased, *In the beginning was the Communication*.³ Through the Incarnation God communicates His glory. How does Jn 1:14 put it? **The Word became flesh, & dwelt among us, literally, made His dwelling among us, tabernacling among us**. He made it possible for us to know Him as we never could before. Because of this, John says, **we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace & truth**

² William Barclay, *Letter to the Hebrews*, p 1

³ R. Kent Hughes, *Hebrews: An Anchor for the Soul*, vol. 1, Preaching the Word, p 22

(14). The prophet Isaiah predicted, **the glory of the Lord would be revealed** (40:5) & John says, *the glory of God has been revealed & dwelt among us*. Jesus is the glory of the Lord revealed. 2 Cor 1:20 makes a great statement we need to know & remember. **For as many as are the promises of God, in Him, Jesus, they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.** Everything of the glory of God is **yes & amen** in Jesus. He is the full revelation of the glory of the Lord. After God had given glimpses of Himself through-out the OT, He revealed Himself fully in His Son & the NT gives us that revelation. Notice vs 3 of Hebs 1 where Jesus is declared to be **the radiance of God's glory**. Who is Jesus? The glory of God. The phrase **radiance of His glory** means Jesus is the shining forth of God. The most graphic illustration of this is in Mt 17 where we read,

Jesus took with Him Peter & James & John his brother, & led them up on a high mountain by themselves. & He was transfigured before them; & His face shone like the sun, & His garments became as white as light. & behold, Moses & Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, & one for Moses, & one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, & behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" (1-5).

There Jesus is revealing His glory. Remember last week, Moses asked to see God's glory (Ex 33:18). He was permitted to see it partially. But here with Jesus He sees it revealed far more. Jesus wanted His disciples to know who He was. When the disciples saw Jesus' glory & heard the voice of God & saw the presence of Moses & Elijah it was an affirmation beyond question that Jesus was not only the voice of God but was God Himself. He was the Messiah. That's why Peter later wrote:

For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power & coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honor & glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased"— & we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. *So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns & the morning star arises in your hearts* (2 Pt 1:16-19).

That experience became the point of His confidence. Jesus is the glory of God. When you look at the manger scene & remember Jesus' birth, don't just see a baby, see the glory of God in human flesh. In support of that, the writer of Hebrews gives us some of the excellencies or glories of Jesus. In vs 2 we see that Jesus is ...

1. The Inheritor He's the **heir of all things**. Sonship demands inheritance. Christ the Son is Inheritor because sons are naturally heirs. The text flows from sonship to heirship: **in these last days has spoken**

to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things (2). The writer is consciously identifying Jesus with the Lord's Anointed One & Son of Ps 2 to whom he says, **Ask of Me, & I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, & the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession (8)**. We know this is in mind because Ps 2:7 is quoted as referring to Christ in vs 5 of Heb 1. Jesus is the heir to this planet & its peoples. But the promise also embraces the universe & the world to come (2:5–9).⁴ Rom 11:36 says, **For from Him & through Him & to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever**. Everything that exists, does so for Jesus. The scope of Christ's inheritance comes from His dual functions as Creator & Redeemer. As Creator of the universe, He's its natural heir. Paul makes reference to this in Col 1:16 where he says, **all things were created... for Him**, or as some have translated, *All things were created... toward Him*.⁵ Everything in the universe has its purpose & destiny in the Heir, Jesus Christ. Scripture is clear: everything in the physical universe is *for him* & *to Him* & will consummate *in Him* as Heir of a new creation. But in addition to His natural inheritance as Creator, as Redeemer He's also earned a vast inheritance of souls renewed through His atoning work on the cross. We are His inheritance, if you can believe that. This is a mind-boggling truth. It's so stupendous that Paul prayed that the church would have its eyes opened to the riches of Christ's glorious inheritance in the saints (Eph 1:18).⁶ He was praying we'd understand how highly we're valued in Christ. Think of it: Jesus is heir to all the universe but we are His treasures. The redeemed are worth more than the universe. We ought to be delirious with this truth. But wait, there's more! In the letter to the Romans we're called **heirs also, heirs of God & fellow heirs with Christ (8:17)**. Because Jesus & He alone is heir to all things, & we live in Him, we're heirs of all.⁷ **All things belong to you**, says Paul, **whether ... the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you, & you belong to Christ; & Christ belongs to God (1 Cor 3:21–23)**. In Rev 5 John looks at the throne of God & an angel cries out, **Who is worthy to take the scroll**, the title deed of the earth, & open it? They look all over & finally comes the Lamb, the Lion of Judah, the Lord Jesus Christ & He can take & open it because He's the rightful heir of the earth.

⁴ F. F. Bruce, *The Epistle to the Hebrews*, p 4

⁵ H. Dermot McDonald, *Commentary on Colossians & Philemon*, p 49

⁶ F. F. Bruce, *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, & to the Ephesians*, p 271 writes: *Paul prays here that his readers will appreciate the value which God places on them, his plan to accomplish his eternal purpose through them as the first fruits of the reconciled universe of the future, in order that their lives may be in keeping with the high calling & that they may accept in grateful humility the grace & glory thus lavished on them.*

⁷ Hughes, pp 26–27

He was given this inheritance by God. When Jesus 1st came to earth He became poor for our sakes, that we, through His poverty, might be made rich (2 Cor 8:9). He had nothing for Himself & had **nowhere to lay His head** (Lk 9:58). Even His clothes were taken from Him when He died. He was buried in a grave that belonged to someone else. But when Christ comes to earth again, He'll completely & eternally inherit all things. &, wonder of wonders, if we've trusted in Him, we're to be **fellow heirs with Him** (Rom 8:16-17). When we enter into His eternal kingdom we'll jointly possess all that He possesses. We won't be joint Lords or joint Christs, but we'll be joint heirs. His marvelous inheritance will be ours as well.

2. The Creator Heb 1:2 says God has spoken to us in His Son, **through whom also He made the world.**

Having introduced the Son's superiority as Inheritor of all things, the thought naturally moves to His supremacy as the Creator of all. **World** here isn't talking about the physical worlds alone. It's not just that He created the physical universe. It's that He created the concepts in which physical things can exist. It's beyond the physical in that He created time & space & force & energy & matter. He created the stuff of which the physical creation was made & He did it all without effort. Jesus was the agent in whom & through whom the entire universe of space & time was created. Jn 1:3 says, **All things came into being through Him, Jesus, & apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.** Only God can create & Jesus did that showing He is God

The late physicist Stephen Hawking, in his best-selling book, *A Brief History of Time*, says our galaxy is an average-sized spiral galaxy that looks to other galaxies like a swirl in a pastry roll & that it's over 100,000 light-years across, about 600 trillion miles. He says, *We now know that our galaxy is only one of some hundred thousand million that can be seen using modern telescopes, each galaxy itself containing some hundred thousand million stars.* It's thought the average distance between these hundred thousand million galaxies (each six hundred trillion miles across & containing one hundred thousand million stars) is 3 million light-years. The size & scope of God's creation is mind-blowing. On top of that, the work of Edwin Hubble has shown that all red-spectrumed galaxies are moving away from us & that nearly all are red. Thus, the universe is constantly expanding. Some estimates say the most distant galaxy is 8 billion light-years away & racing away at 200 million miles an hour.

Finally, the fact of the expanding universe demands a beginning, though even Hawking doubted that a Big Bang was its beginning.⁸ I've mentioned all of this to emphasize the stupendous creative power of Christ. He created every speck of dust in the 100 thousand million galaxies of the universe. He created every atom & electron & whatever else there is. This stupendous reality is corroborated by other statements in the NT:

There is ... one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, & we *exist* through Him (1 Cor 8:6).

For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens & on earth, visible & invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him & for Him (Col 1:16).

Do you get the point? Everything was created by Him, everything physical & all things spiritual. We can't create the tiniest speck of dust but He created the universe. He can do what we can never do, physically & spiritually. He can create in us clean hearts (Ps 51:10). In fact, He can make us into new creations: **Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come (2 Cor 5:17).** He does it all out of nothing. He can take whatever you are, your *nothingness*, & create a new person. There's nothing in you that's beyond the creative power of God. You aren't an exception to His creativity, no matter how unique you may imagine yourself or your problem to be. If you don't recognize Jesus as the Creator you have a huge problem explaining how this marvelous, intricate, immeasurable universe came into being. The writer continues & tells us Jesus is also...

3. The Sustainer in that He **upholds all things by the word of His power (3)**. He holds the whole thing together, sustaining it. Jesus is actively holding up **all things** & He does so by His spoken word. The writer is specific, not using *logos*, which is often used to indicate revelation, but *rhema*, meaning the spoken word. Just as the universe was called into existence with a spoken word, it's also sustained by the utterance of the Son.⁹ & the verb **upholds** is continuous. Jesus continually holds all things together. This universe would disintegrate & fly to pieces if it weren't for His upholding power. We'd go out of existence if He decided to take a break. If He suspended the law of gravity for a moment, we'd all die in unimaginable ways. If the earth's rotation would slow slightly, we'd all alternately freeze

⁸ Stephen W. Hawking, *A Brief History of Time*, p 37-50

⁹ Hugh Montefiore, *A Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews*, p 35

& burn. The sun's (photosphere) temperature is 10,000 degrees¹⁰ & if it were any further or closer we'd freeze or burn. & we could go on & on. Who holds the fantastically delicate balance of all things & keeps it all working? Jesus, the glory of the Lord revealed to us is the One who upholds it all. He sustains the universe & He can sustain you. Jesus is adequate for everything. As Paul writes, **Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God** (2 Cor 3:5). Next, Jesus is...

4. The Radiator Don't think of your car or an oil or hot water filled heater. Jesus is the radiance of God's **glory** (Heb 1:3). He is the Radiator of God's glory. Jesus isn't a reflection of God's glory but the **radiance** of it. There's a huge difference between the two. The moon reflects light, whereas the sun radiates light because it's the source.¹¹ Jesus doesn't simply reflect God's glory; He is God's glory revealed! This was shown on the Mount of Transfiguration when **His garments became radiant & exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them** (Mk 9:3). It was His own essential glory, but it was also the Father's. This is also what blinded Paul on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:3; 22:6). Just as the radiance of the sun reaches the earth to light us & warm us & give us life & growth, so in Christ we find the warmth & **radiance** of the glorious light of God touching our hearts & giving us life & growth. The **radiance** that reaches us from God is mediated to us in Jesus. Just as the sun (s-u-n) has never been without & cannot be separated from its brightness, so God was never without & cannot be separated from the glory of Christ. The brightness of the sun can't be separated from the sun & yet it is distinct. & so Christ is God & yet distinct. He is God & yet He's the manifestation of God. He's the glory of the Lord who shouts the reality of God which was only whispered & spoken of in time past. That's why the Nicene Creed says Jesus is *God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God*.

5. The Representor The following phrase balances out His identity by emphasizing that He's also the Representor of God: **the exact representation of God's nature** (3). This translates the term used for the impression made by a die or stamp on a seal. The design on the die is reproduced on the wax. It

¹⁰ www.space.com/17137-how-hot-is-the-sun.html

¹¹ Simon J. Kistemaker, *Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews*, p 29

has the idea of a copy, an image, a reproduction. Christ is the image of God, the express, exact image of God. He's the character of God revealed. He's the stamp of God on human flesh (2 Cor 4:4; Col 1:15). Jesus is the mark, the seal, the image, the reproduction, the precise copy of God. But those all still fall short of the reality of the truth. It's impossible to express that Jesus is the very essence of God with any simile or metaphor without losing something. I think it's best expressed in Col 2:9 where Paul says, **For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.** That's the greatest statement of the deity of Jesus. When you take Radiator & Representor together, we have a remarkable description of the identity of the Father in the Son. As Radiator, Jesus is part of the source, one with the Father. This is what John emphasizes when he says, **the Word *was* God** (Jn 1:1). But as *Representor*, Jesus is distinct, as John also emphasizes when he says, **the Word *was with* God.** Jesus is God. When you see Him, you see the Father. But He's also a distinct Person. This is all bound in with the mystery of the Trinity. When we see Him, we know what the God of the universe is like. We know how He thinks. We know how He talks. We know how He relates to people. God has spoken in His Son. It's His ultimate communication, His final word.

6. The Purifier The supremacy of Jesus dazzles the mind: He is *Inheritor, Creator, Sustainer, Radiator, & Representor*. These are beautiful, soul-expanding thoughts, & they vibrate with glory when we see that they introduce the priestly supremacy of Jesus. He is our Purifier. He's introduced as the priestly Purifier who paid for our sins with His own blood. The thought almost sounds like an afterthought, **When He had made purification of sins...** (3). Ceaseless creative & upholding activity, & then *boom!* His once-and-for-all sacrifice for our sins. The Bible says the wages of sin is death. Jesus Christ went to the cross, died the death we deserved & took the penalty of our sin on Himself. If we'll accept His death & believe that He died for us, He'll free us from the penalty of sin & purify us from our sin. It was a wondrous work when Jesus Christ created the world. It's wondrous that He sustains the world. But a greater work than making & upholding the world is that of purging us of sin. He dealt with the problem of sin once & for all. It had to be done. We could not communicate with God or enter into fellowship with Him unless sin was dealt with. So Jesus went to the cross & bore the penalty of sin for all who would accept His sacrifice, believe in & receive Him. We're all sinners. & either we pay the

penalty for our own sin, which is eternal death, or we accept Jesus' payment for it in sacrificing Himself, for which we receive eternal life. If the desire of our heart is to receive Him as Savior, to believe in & to accept His sacrifice, our sins are then washed away. The Bible says that without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness for sin (Heb 9:22) & that **the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin** (1 Jn 1:7). Jesus came as the perfect Sacrifice. The man whose sins are forgiven has them forgiven only because of Jesus Christ. This is a cosmic achievement because Jesus did something no man or priest could ever do: By Himself He offered the only sacrifice that could pay for sin. As Spurgeon puts it,

This He did on Calvary's cross; there effectually, finally, totally, completely, eternally, He purged all His people from their sin by taking it upon Himself, bearing all its dreadful consequences, canceling & blotting it out, casting it into the depths of the sea, & putting it away forever. It was indeed amazing love that made Him stoop to this purgation, this expiation, this atonement for sin; but, because He was who & what He was, He did it thoroughly, perfectly. He said, "It is finished," & I believe Him.... He was made a curse for us, & there is nothing but blessing left for us to enjoy.¹²

That was the work of a glorious God. **When He had** by Himself **made purification of sins...** He did it by Himself. Even God the Father turned His back on Him. **My God, My God, why have You what? Forsaken Me?** (Mt 27:46). He purged sin by Himself, He didn't need anyone's assistance or help. This was a greater work than creation & a greater work than upholding the universe. He cleansed our sins. That becomes one of the themes of the book of Hebrews. In Heb 7:27 it says that Jesus **does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins & then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.** This was His intervention into the human disaster. For a brief time, the glory departed. As the darkness engulfed Him, for that brief time, the glory of the Lord became the bearer of our sins & He felt God's absence in a way we'll never understand. But He did it for us & He did it by Himself. But it doesn't end there. He is now...

7. The Ruler The immensity of His achievement is given perspective by the phrase that follows: **He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high** (3). Jesus is Ruler of all things. The significance here is that priests never sat down. They were always on their feet, because no sacrifice was ever complete. But Jesus, a high priest after the order of Melchizedek, sat down. **Every priest stands daily**

¹² Charles Spurgeon, *Spurgeon Commentary: Hebrews*, ed. Elliot Ritzema & Jessi Strong, Spurgeon Commentary Series, p 13

ministering & offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, Jesus, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God (Heb 10:11-12). From the cross Jesus shouted, **It is finished!** (Jn 19:30) & then, reassured, took His seat at God's right hand, the place of honor, blessing, & power. Christ sat down. Why? Because He was done. His work was finished. In the tabernacle & temple, there were no seats because the priests never finished. Sacrifice after sacrifice, year after year, the work was never done. They never sat down because it was never a finished work. Yet Jesus made one sacrifice & when it was finished, He sat down. It was over. There was nothing more to do. Jesus sitting down at His Father's right hand signifies at least 4 things. 1st, He sat down as a sign of honor. Phil 2 says God has highly exalted Him & given Him a name above every name. He's seated there because He's to be honored. 2nd, it's the place of ruling & authority. Peter says Jesus is **at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels & authorities & powers had been subjected to Him** (1 Pt 3:22). This is the place of honor & of rule. 3rd, it's the place of rest. He sat down because He was finished. 4th, it's the place of intercession. He's at the right hand of God making intercession for us (Rom 8:34). Jesus took His rightful place at the right hand of God. This is the message of Christmas. The glory of the Lord has been revealed in Jesus who has come into the world. We've seen the preeminent Christ in all His offices. We have seen Him as Prophet, the final spokesman for God. We've seen Him as Priest, atoning & interceding. We've seen Him as King, controlling, sustaining, & seated on a throne. This is our Lord Jesus Christ. A man who says Jesus is anything less than this is a fool & calls God a liar.

What does this mean to us? In a word, everything! To reject Him is to be shut out from His presence into an eternal hell. But to receive Him is to enter into all that He is & has. There are no other choices.¹³ It's in Christ & Him crucified & resurrected that we see every attribute of God's holy character as a just God & Savior revealed, honored, & magnified. Jesus crucified is God's redemptive glory. He's God's highest glory, the greatest revelation of Himself. The greatest demonstration, the supreme manifestation of the glory of the Lord, is in the face of Jesus Christ, in the life of Jesus Christ, & in the

¹³ John F. MacArthur Jr., *Hebrews*, MacArthur New Testament Commentary, p 20

death & resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Baby born in Bethlehem is the glory of God on display. In Christ you have the perfect union of greatness & goodness, of justice & mercy, of holiness & love. If you want to know God, the only way is by knowing Him as He's revealed in Jesus. The message of Christmas is that God came into the world in all His glory. & what was only a whisper became a shout. God's Law, His Shekinah appearances, His words through the prophets were all glorious. But it has no glory in comparison to the revelation of glory in Jesus. Paul says, **what had glory, in this case has no glory because of the glory that surpasses it** (2 Cor 3:10). The revelation of the glory in Jesus far exceeds any that was revealed before. That's why we say God shouts in the Person of Jesus. **We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit** (2 Cor 3:18). The veil is taken away. The things that were mysterious & confusing are clearly revealed to us. We're not like Ezekiel anymore. The veil is off. We now behold in a glass **the glory of the Lord**. Who's that? Jesus Christ. As we behold Him we're changed into the same image, from one level of glory to the next by the Spirit of the Lord. We become like Him as we gaze on Him. As believers we're all in this process. We're gazing at His glory & we're being transformed into His image in the process. As Christians, our purpose in life isn't to live for ourselves, but to reflect God's glory. **Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God** (1 Cor 10:31).

Do you know this Son? He is God's final word. There is no other. It's staggering to me that the Lord Jesus Christ is **the glory of the Lord revealed to us**. It's more staggering that He's **the glory of the Lord revealed for us**. It's most staggering of all that He's **the glory of the Lord revealed in us**. Christ **in you the hope of glory** (Col 1:27). Most people will miss Christmas. They'll miss Jesus. They'll miss the glory of the Lord. I hope you don't. I hope you focus on Him so you can become what you were created to be. What a wonderful thing to realize that Jesus, who is the full expression of God in human history, can come into our lives & give us light to see & know God. His light, in fact, gives us life itself, spiritual life. His light gives us purpose, meaning, happiness, peace, joy, fellowship, everything, for all eternity. Do you know Him, Jesus, the glory of the Lord revealed to us?