



1517



2017

# AMAZING GRACE

*The Reformation to the Glory of God*



FIVE

SOLAS

# AMAZING GRACE

*The Reformation to the Glory of God*

**SO**L**A**

*saved by*

**GRATIA**

*Grace alone*

**SO**L**A**

*through*

**FIDE**

*Faith alone*

**SO**L**U**S

*in*

**CHRISTUS**

*Christ alone*

**SO**L**A**

*according to*

**SCRIPTURA**

*Scripture alone*

**SO**L**I**

*for the*

**DEO GLORIA**

*glory of God alone*

Today's Message:

**Soli Deo gloria:** *For the glory of God alone*



A handwritten signature and text on aged, yellowed musical manuscript paper. The signature is written in a large, flowing cursive script. Below it, the name 'G. F. H.' is written in a smaller, more compact cursive. Underneath the name, the text 'Londres ce 14 de Jan. 1742.' is written in a similar cursive hand. At the bottom, the year '1742.' is written.



Georg Friedrich Händel

What is *the glory of God*?

glo · ry  
'glôre/

*noun*

1. high renown or honor won by notable achievements.

*synonyms:*

renown, fame, prestige, honor, distinction, kudos, eminence, acclaim, praise...

2. magnificence or great beauty.

*synonyms:*

magnificence, splendor, resplendence, grandeur, majesty, greatness, nobility...

# What is *the glory of God*?

Sometimes it is used to signify what is:

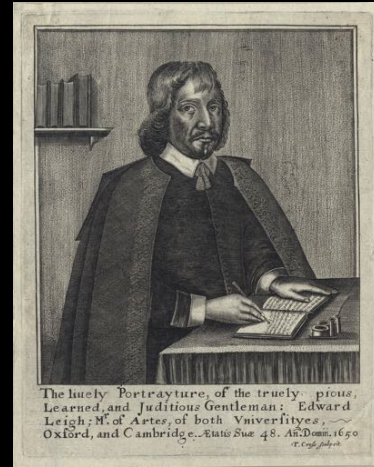
- *internal, inherent, or in the possession of the person (excellency, dignity, or worthiness )*
- and sometimes for *emanation, exhibition, or communication* of this internal glory
- and sometimes for the *knowledge, or sense* of these, in those to whom the exhibition or communication is made
- or an *expression* of this knowledge, sense, or effect.



# What is *the glory of God*?

The infinite excellency of the divine essence.

~Edward Leigh, English lay writer, 1602-71



# What is *the glory of God*?

The outward radiance of the intrinsic worth and beauty and greatness of his manifold perfections.

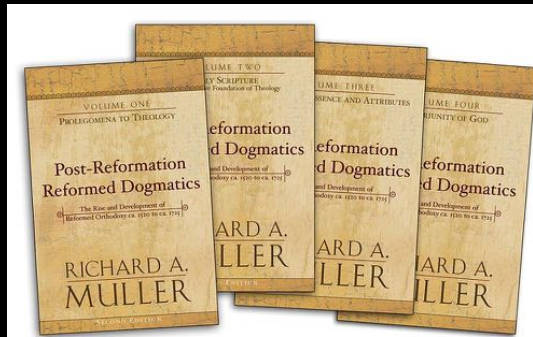
~John Piper, message - *Soli Deo gloria: Heart and Soul of the Reformation*



# What is *the glory of God*?

It is to be understood essentially, as one of the divine attributes but, moreover, as an attribute that eminently reflects and reveals the perfection of all the attributes.

~Richard Muller, *Post-Reformation Reformed Dogmatics, The Rise and Development of Reformed Orthodoxy, ca. 1520 to ca. 1725*



# What is *the glory of God*?

Isaiah 42:8

I am the Lord; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

# What is *the glory of God*?

Isaiah 2:12-17

For the Lord of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up — and it shall be brought low; against all the cedars of Lebanon, lofty and lifted up; and against all the oaks of Bashan; against all the lofty mountains, and against all the uplifted hills; against every high tower, and against every fortified wall; against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft. And the haughtiness of man shall be humbled, and the lofty pride of men shall be brought low, and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.

How is *the glory of God* displayed?

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1. In his Son – his Incarnation and Crucifixion

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## 1. In His Son – In his Incarnation and Crucifixion

John 1:14, 18

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth...18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.



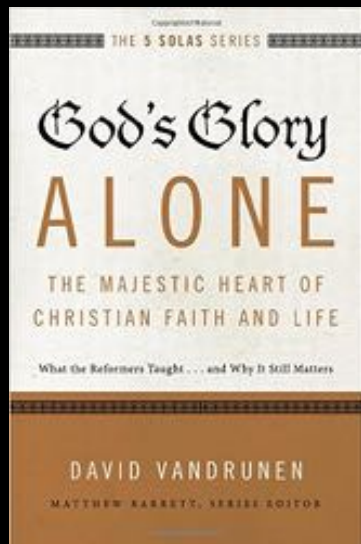
# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

## 1. In His Son – In his Incarnation and Crucifixion

### John 12:23-28

23 Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. 27 “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!”

To behold the God of glory, we must behold God beaten, mocked, and crucified...God glorifies himself, and we can live for his glory, but only along a path that unaided human reason could never have discovered and would never have dared imagine. The way to God's glory winds through the lowliness and desolation of Calvary (i.e. the cross).



~ David Vandrunen, *God's Glory Alone---The Majestic Heart of Christian Faith and Life: What the Reformers Taught...and Why It Still Matters* (The Five Solas Series), page 17.

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

1. In his Son – his Incarnation and Crucifixion
  2. In Creation – Of people and all else

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

2. In Creation – Of people and all else

**Isaiah 43:6-7**

Bring my sons from afar and my daughters  
from the end of the earth,  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

2. In Creation – Of people and all else

**Psalm 19:1**

The heavens declare the glory of God.

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

1. In his Son – his Incarnation and Crucifixion
  2. In Creation – Of people and all else
3. In New Creation – Of people and all else

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

3. In New Creation – Of people and all else

**Ephesians 1:5-6, 11-12**

In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – 6 *to the praise of his glorious grace*, which he has freely given us in the One he loves...11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be *for the praise of his glory*.

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

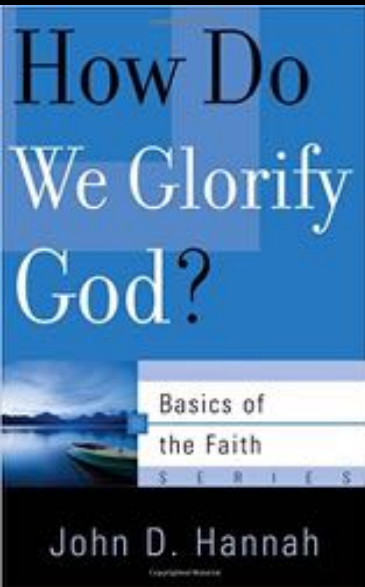
3. In New Creation – Of people and all else

**Romans 9:23**

...in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory.



Soli Deo gloria is “a call to a radical vision of God-centered living in all of life’s many facets. The glory of God alone implies the right purpose for all of life – a God-centered purpose. All who share this radical view of Christianity make the ultimate purpose of life God’s glory, not their own self-fulfillment or self-realization.



~ John Hannah, *How Do We Glorify God? Basics of the Reformed Faith Series*, 6-7.

# How is *the glory of God* displayed?

3. In New Creation – Of people and all else

**Romans 8:18-22**

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

When on the day the great I Am,  
The faithful and the true  
The Lamb who was for sinners slain,  
Is making all things new:  
Behold our God shall live with us  
And be our steadfast light  
And we shall e'er his people be  
All glory be to Christ!

# Questions to consider and discuss:

*Do you believe that your life is for glory of God alone?*

# Questions to consider and discuss:

*Do you believe that your life is for glory of God alone?*

*Will you declare this glory in and through your life –  
By what you do, what you say, and how you live?*

## Psalm 96:3

Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.





**I GOT  
THIS**  
-GOD



## Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?' 'Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?' For from him and through him and to him are all things.

*To him be glory forever. Amen.*