

Folks, this is astonishing. This is awesome. This is incomprehensible. As a result of Messiah's suffering, you and I share His glory. That is an absolutely undeniable, verifiable theological fact. YOU ALREADY SHARE THIS GLORY. You don't have to seek it. You don't have to strive to gain it. You possess it, although you will need to learn how to manifest it, as we will see. The personal impartation of this glory to every in Christ believer is another New Covenant dynamic WHICH WAS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

**D. We must know that we have been given the privilege to share in this suffering/glory dynamic with Christ.**

Of course, the Bible teaches of a coming day when we will be fully and completely glorified. That is a given, but right now, we are talking about experiencing the suffering and glory dynamic. In the words of Paul as he discusses our partnership in suffering with Christ in Romans 8:17-18:

*“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”* Romans 8:17-18

**1. This suffering partnership with Christ is a marvelous New Covenant privilege.** Philippians 1:28-30.

**2. This suffering partnership with Christ is an absolute New Covenant necessity.** Satan does not want you to know what you have. He wants you to wallow in your weakness.

**Conclusion:** The theme of our series has been Christ Alone or, “Only Jesus,” and the argument is that He is sufficient. He *alone* is sufficient for all our needs, be they for salvation, physical or spiritual nourishment and healing, satisfaction, joy, or fulfillment. In the simplest of terms, our New Covenant Lord alone is sufficient because we have been placed in Him. We share His life. We share His intimate and abiding walk. We share in the power which flows out of His resurrection in our struggles and warfare. And today, we learned that we share in the sufferings of Christ as we engage in His grand calling to reach the nations for Christ.



**Stash it or Trash it!**

*A disposable mini-guide to keep us on task for today's study.  
GTBC 08/2021 - Steel*

## CHRIST ALONE! (III. The Glory Dynamic)

**Series Overview:** Our series premise is that Jesus is our only sufficient source for all things that pertain to life and godliness. So far we have discussed the Abiding Dynamic and the Resurrection Dynamic.

**Today's Lesson Goal:** Our goal today is to understand that the sufferings of Christ have not yet consummated and that we may opt to share in those sufferings for His glory and our glorification.

**Our Session Outline:** To understand this suffering: **A.** We must first discuss glory, **B.** We must see how important glory is in the whole of God's plan, **C.** We must know what Jesus taught about His own suffering and glory, and **D.** We must know that we have been given the privilege to share in this suffering/glory dynamic with Christ.

### DYNAMIC # 3 – THE GLORY DYNAMIC

We'll read the whole verse and stress the third aspect:

*“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;”*  
Philippians 3:10

Why would anyone long to experience suffering and pain and sorrow?

**A. To understand this suffering: We must first discuss glory.**

Suffering and glory are commonly discussed in the same biblical context. Wherever we find suffering discussed, for example, glory is not far behind. This is because there is a New Covenant dynamic which will quickly come into play.

**B. To understand this suffering: We must see how important glory is in the whole of God's plan.**

*Note: For ponderers who wonder why God has paired these themes of suffering and glory consider beginning with Romans 9:22-23 and the context.*

**1. Glory is a defining trait that belongs to God and God alone.** God may share His glory, but it is sourced in God alone. Laurence Justice defines it:

*“God’s glory is the manifestation of his excellencies. God’s glory is his perfections made known. God’s glory is what he is in himself, the sum total of his excellencies made known, revealed, made manifest.”*

PLEASE HOLD ONTO THIS IMPORTANT TRUTH: GOD MANIFESTS HIS GLORY TO AUTHENTICATE HIMSELF AND HIS MESSAGE. PERIOD. THAT IS WHY HIS GLORY IS REVEALED.

**2. The glory of God is associated or manifested with His name.** A good starting point for that study would begin with Exodus 33:18-23.

**3. The glory of God is manifest or declared in the creation.** The operative word here is in the creation. God is not a part of His creation. Psalm 19:1, or Psalm 97:6-7, a rebuke to idolaters (and evolutionists) everywhere.

**4. God’s glory has been further manifested throughout history.** It accompanied the giving of the Old Covenant at Mt. Sinai. It was found in the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle and in the earthly temple and was subsequently taken from that temple and the city in phases in response to Israel’s apostasy.

**5. Finally, God’s glory was manifest in Christ.** John 1:14 teaches:

*“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”*

**C. To understand this suffering: We must know what Jesus taught about His own suffering and glory.**

John 17 provides an essay on this for our benefit.

**Fact # 1.** Jesus claimed unequivocally and unabashedly that He had shared the Father’s glory before coming to earth. John 17:5.

**Fact # 2.** As our Lord approached His own glorification at the cross, He strangely associated His humiliation and suffering with His glorification. Jesus saw the cross as His hour of glorification. Look back at verse 1 of this chapter where Jesus expands on what He taught in John 12:23-25:

*“These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee.”*

And, don’t forget resurrection day. The very first point our Lord sought to get across to his disciples in Luke 24:25-27, where he chides those naive disciples on the Emmaus road:

*“Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.”*

**Fact # 3.** And, please, please do not miss the third thing our Lord taught in John 17:1, and 20-23. As Jesus anticipates the finished work of the cross, He speaks of a marvelous transfer of His glory. As a result of the cross the Father glorifies the Son, and then, as a result of the Son being glorified, **HE GIVES US THIS SAME GLORY.**

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