

Series: The 5 Solas  
Sermon title: *Soli Deo Gloria*/ God's Glory Alone  
Scripture reading: Romans 11:33-36  
November 12, 2017  
Clearwater Bay International Baptist Church  
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Today is our last sermon in the Protestant Reformation series.

We have looked at:

**Grace Alone.**

**Faith Alone.**

**Scripture Alone.**

**Christ Alone.**

and today we come to the last one: **God's Glory Alone.**

\*It implies that someone was giving glory to someone other than God. We will talk more about that later.

Have you ever seen something glorious?  
What's the most glorious thing you've ever seen?  
Something unforgettable.

Maybe you've seen a Himalayan sunrise?  
Maybe Buckingham Palace?  
Maybe you've ridden a raft down the Li Jiang at sunset in Yangshuo.

something....**GLORIOUS!**

You know the feeling but what is GLORY?

We sing about the 'glory of God.'

The Bible speaks a lot about the 'glory of God'.

It says things like this in **1 Corinthians 10:31**,  
“**Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.**”

## **I. The Glory of God defined.**

Let's try to find our answer in the scriptures, starting in **Psalm 96**.

[Read **Psalm 96**]

Maybe Psalm 96 and 97 and 98 can help us a bit know what glory looks like.

Notice in verse 3 his glory is compared to his '**marvelous works**'.

In verse 4 we see his '**greatness**'.

In verse 5 we see glory in his '**making of the heavens**'.

In verse 6 we have these words to describe him:

**Splendor**

**Majesty**

**Strength**

**Beauty**

In verse 10 we see his Kingship....he **REIGNS**

and also in verse 10 we see his **sustaining power**, his power to **judge** and his **fairness**.

In verse 13...we see his **righteousness** and his **faithfulness**.

So, this is a taste of God's glory.

He is the creator and king of the universe. He sustains everything. He is great. He is marvelous. He is majestic. He is beautiful. He is robbed in splendor and strength. He is good and fair but the whole world is accountable to him.

So, what is God's glory?

**It is his value on display.**

The Hebrew word for 'glory' means: HEAVY or WEIGHT. If something weighs a lot it typically means VALUE or WORTH.

That's why seeing God's glory....demands **worship**. Simply put....we see something valuable and we say WOW!

To see glory is to give the proper response....We see the glory of God and we 'give him glory'.

## **II. The Glory of God is on display.**

Turn to **Psalm 19**.

[Read **Psalm 19:1**]

God's glory is on display in the heavens and the sky and all creation.

They are screaming out, "There is a God."

**Isaiah 6:3**, "The whole earth is full of his glory."

But if we really want to see God's glory on display....because we see God himself with skin on... we have to look at Jesus Christ.

**John 1:14**, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

**2 Corinthians 4:4-6**, "4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of **the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God**. 5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of **the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ**."

The glory of God is on display generally, in the world that he has created. It is shouting about him. But specifically, if we want to see God's glory we look at Jesus Christ.

**III. The Glory of God is to be declared.**

We already read in Psalm 96 that we are to 'Declare his glory among the nations.'  
That's evangelism pure and simple.

Look at 1 Peter 2:9.

[Read **1 Peter 2:9**]

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may **proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

### **What is the Glory of God?**

It is his value on display.

It is on display in his creation generally and in Jesus Christ specifically and perfectly.

Christians are to declare the value and worth of God...or the glory of God to all of the nations of the Earth.

### **IV. The Glory of God is to be our desire.**

[Read **1 Corinthians 10:31**] "whatever you do."

[Read **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**] "we are not our own."

[Read **2 Corinthians 3:18**] "beholding the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed."

**What does it really mean to live for the glory of God....**

**to live to show God's worth....**

**to live to show God's value...????**

**Answer:**

I am not the point of my life!

IT'S ALL ABOUT GOD, NOT ME.

What if every area of our lives were about God?

What if the point of everything we did was...GOD?

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the Glory of God is his value on display.

It is on display in his creation and in Jesus Christ specifically and perfectly.

Christians are to declare the value and worth of God to all of the nations of the Earth.

And we should desire to point to God in all we do.

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**V. The Glory of God is our destination.**

[Read **Ezekiel 1:22-28**]

[Read **Revelation 21:22-23,22:3-5**]

This is our future.

Those who believe in Jesus will see the face of God in all his glory....forever and ever and his splendor and glory will never fade away or get old. It will never lose its luster.

Why Soli Deo Gloria?

Why live by the statement, "God's glory alone."

Because 500 years ago and today we give glory to all kinds of things.

Statues.

Religious relics.

Religious leaders.

Jesus' mother.

**Why should we live for God's Glory alone???**

Because no one else deserves glory but God.

Are you living for yourself or for God?

Are you the point of your life?

Is life all about you....what you want?

If you claim to be a believer in Jesus Christ then life is to be about God's Glory....all of life...all about GOD!

In closing...

I'd like to read **Romans 11:34-36**

**33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!**

**34 “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” 35 “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” 36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.**