

↓ **THIS WAY UP** ↓
(2 Corinthians)

Pembroke Bible Chapel
Mark Floyd – 2009 Aug 30
Series No. MF-2COR-10

THE VEIL REMOVED

(2 Corinthians 3:12-18)

THE GLORY OF GOD

- God's glory is the revelation of His divine attributes and perfections; in particular, the physical manifestation of His presence. (*Ex 33:7-11; Heb 1:3*)

GOD UNVEILED (13-16)

- God's revelation of Himself in the Old Testament is veiled; as such, God's glory is only partially revealed in the Law and Commandments. (*13-15; Ex 34:28-35*)
- in Jesus Christ, we have a complete, unveiled display of God's glory; it is only through faith in Christ that we have this unblinded view of God and His plan of salvation. (*14, 16; Col 2:9; Heb 1:3*)

EVER-INCREASING GLORY (18)

- unlike the fading glory of Moses' veiled face, we are being transformed by the Spirit into ever-increasing glory (godliness/Christ-likeness), as we fix our unobscured gaze on the Lord Jesus Christ. (*18; Heb 12:2; 1 Jn 3:2*)

“And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one.” (John 17:22)

Application

Many fall into the error of thinking that they can increase in godliness by trying to observe moral rules and regulations, such as those revealed in the Old Testament. There is nothing wrong with God's commandments; the flaw in this approach to holiness lies with us – we are, by nature, sinners that are incapable of keeping His laws (Rom 7:18-19). God revealed enough of His righteousness in the Law to lead us to this conclusion (Rom 3:23). Coming under the condemnation of His Law is intended to lead us to something far better – faith in Jesus Christ (Gal 3:24). In Christ, God has revealed the fullness of His glory and plan for us – to be saved from sin by faith in Christ, and, by the transforming power of His indwelling Spirit, to become like Christ – to have His glory, the glory of the Father, revealed in us. This plan is not realized by pursuing legal rules and regulations, but by fixing our eye of faith on Jesus Christ. God intends Christians to “serve in the newness of the Spirit, not in the oldness of the letter” (Rom 7:6). Christ-likeness is our ultimate inheritance and destiny; therefore, let us make being like Him our most earnest desire and goal (Php 3:7-14). When we do, we can be absolutely sure we are in the will of God.

What is your greatest goal in life and who are you relying on to achieve it?

*“...we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”
(1 John 3:2)*