



## Approaching God

### Begin your time with an opening prayer

Take a moment to quiet your heart and ask God to help you experience his presence today. Ask Him to free you from any distractions as you begin to read and meditate on today's passages.

### Today's Theme: God is Glorious

The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of God's manifold perfections.

## Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Slowly Read the Following Passages

**Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words.**

### Leviticus 10:1-3

**1** Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu put coals of fire in their incense burners and sprinkled incense over them. In this way, they disobeyed the LORD by burning before him the wrong kind of fire, different than he had commanded. **2** So fire blazed forth from the LORD's presence and burned them up, and they died there before the LORD. **3** Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD meant when he said, 'I will display my holiness through those who come near me. I will display my glory before all the people.'" And Aaron was silent.

### Isaiah 60:1-3

**1** "Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all to see. For the glory of the LORD rises to shine on you. **2** Darkness as black as night covers all the nations of the earth, but the glory of the LORD rises and appears over you. **3** All nations will come to your light; mighty kings will come to see your radiance.

### 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

**1** Therefore, since God in his mercy has given us this new way, we never give up. **2** We reject all shameful deeds and underhanded methods. We don't try to trick anyone or distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know this. **3** If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. **4** Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of

Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. **5** You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake. **6** For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

### Luke 9:28-36

**28** About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. **29** As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. **30** Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. **31** They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. **32** Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. **33** As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.) **34** While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. **35** A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." **36** When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

## Meditation - GOD IS GLORIOUS

### Read the short essay from Ligonier Ministries

Any study of God's glory would be incomplete without a look at what the term *glory* actually means. Setting forth a precise definition of the word *glory*, however, is no easy task. Like many other theological concepts, God's glory is a concept that we have an awareness of without necessarily being able to describe it in all its fullness.

When we think of the glory of the Lord, the image of brilliant light often comes to our minds. That is certainly appropriate, as Scripture often describes the glory of God in terms of a light that shines brighter than anything that we experience on earth. For example, today's passage speaks of the glory of our Creator and not the sun being the light that shines forth in this dark world, revealing itself through God's people that they might point the pagan nations unto the Lord of all (Isa. 60:1–3). Revelation 21:22–25 tells us that in the new heaven and earth, creation will have no need for the sun by day or the moon by night because the glory of the Lord shall illumine all of creation.

Other biblical passages connect God's glory with his holiness and weightiness, that is, His significance. We see this with particular clarity in Leviticus 10:1–3 and the account of Nadab and Abihu, who offered strange fire before the Lord. Moses does not tell us precisely what "strange fire" means, but it is clear enough that Nadab and Abihu acted irreverently in their actions. In other words, they did not approach God with proper reverence and awareness of His divine dignity. They did not glorify the Lord, and so they were consumed by fire from on high.

Besides helping us see that glorifying God requires us to understand His significance, holiness, and weightiness, Leviticus 10:1–3 also informs us of the seriousness with which the Lord takes His worship. Coming together with God's people to praise His name is a distinct privilege and not something we should take lightly. We do not worship a God who can be regarded in a flippant or otherwise careless manner.

*R.C. Sproul*

## Daily Reflection Questions

1. What 1 or 2 verses of today's scripture passages *most* stood out to you? What was significant for you in those verses?
2. How would you briefly summarize what it means that "God is Glorious" in your own words?
3. In what areas of your life right now do you most need to believe and trust in this particular attribute of God? How might your life be different if you were able to trust and truly believe in the glory of God?

## Close in Prayer:

- What can I **REJOICE IN** as a result of today's study?
- What do I need to **REPENT OF** as a result of today's study?
- What do I want to **REQUEST FROM** God today?