

Ephesians 1:1-6 • My Glory
The Highest Expression of God's Glory Is his Grace

In the beginning,
God
God You preceded the beginning,
You are
eternal, immortal, immutable,
sovereign, omnipotent, omnipresent,
all-knowing and all-loving.
All things were made by You,
and without You
there was not any thing made that was made,
and in You all things hold together.
For from You and through You and to You are all things.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were born
or You brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting
You are God.

Isaiah 46:9-10 **remember** the former things of old; for **I am God**, and **there is no other; I am God**, and **there is none like me**, declaring the **end** from the **beginning** and from **ancient times things not yet done**, saying, '**My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,**'

Isaiah 55:8-9 For **my thoughts are not your thoughts**, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. **For as the heavens are higher than the earth**, so are **my ways higher than your ways** and **my thoughts than your thoughts**.

Acts 17:24-25 The **God who made the world and everything in it**, being **Lord of heaven and earth**, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, **since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything**.

Ephesians 1:1-2 **Paul**, an **apostle of Christ Jesus** by the **will of God (Father)**, To the **saints** who are in Ephesus, and are **faithful in Christ Jesus**: **Grace** to you and **peace** from **God our Father** and the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

Ephesians 1:3-6 **Blessed** be the **God and Father** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, who *(Father)* has blessed us *(saints)* in **Christ** with **every spiritual blessing** in the **heavenly places**, even as he *(Father)* **chose us** in him *(Christ)* **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be **holy and blameless** before **him (Father)**. In love he *(Father)* **predestined us** for **adoption to himself** as sons through **Jesus Christ**, according to the **purpose of his (Father) will**, to the **praise** of his *(Father)* **glorious grace**, with which **he (Father)** has **blessed us** in the **Beloved (Christ)**.

*The Father has blessed us in Christ,
chosen us, predestined us, adopted us and blessed us in Christ
to the eternal praise of His glorious grace.*

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him."

John Piper

Deuteronomy 7:6-8a "For **you are a people holy** to the **LORD your God**. The **LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession**, out of **all the peoples who are on the face of the earth**. It was **not because you were more in number** than any other people that the **LORD set his love on you and chose you**, for you were the fewest of all peoples, **but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers...**

"LORD set his love on you and chose you...because the LORD loves you"

Jeremiah 1:4-5 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "**Before I formed you (Jeremiah) in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.**"

Galatians 1:15-16a But when he (God) who had **set me (Paul) apart** before **I was born**, and who **called me by his grace**, was **pleased to reveal his Son to me**, in order that I might preach him among the **Gentiles...**

2Timothy 1:9 who (*God*) **saved us and called us** to a holy calling, **not because of our works** but **because of his own purpose and grace**, which **he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began...**

Matthew 25:31-34 “When the **Son of Man** (*Jesus*) comes in his **glory**, and all the angels with him, then he will **sit on his glorious throne**. Before him will be gathered **all the nations**, and **he will separate people** one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the **sheep on his right**, but the **goats on the left**. Then the **King** will say to those on **his right**, ‘**Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.**’

Matthew 25:41,46, “Then **he** (*Jesus*) will say to those on his **left**, ‘**Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire** prepared for the **devil and his angels...** And **these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.**”

Isaiah 6-7 **I** (*Lord*) **will** say to the north, **Give up**, and to the south, **Do not withhold; 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.**”

Isaiah 48:11 **For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it**, for how should **my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.**

Ezekiel 36:22-27 “Therefore say to the house of Israel, **Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake**, O house of Israel, that **I am about to act**, but **for the sake of my holy name**, which you have **profaned among the nations** to which you came. And **I will vindicate the holiness of my great name**, which has been **profaned** among the nations, and **which you have profaned among them**. And the nations will know that **I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD**, when through you **I vindicate my holiness before their eyes**. **I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries** and bring you into your own land. **I will sprinkle clean water on you**, and you shall be clean from **all your uncleannesses**, and **from all your idols** **I will cleanse you**. And **I will give you a new heart**, and **a new spirit** **I will put within you**. And **I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh** and **give you a heart of flesh**. And **I will put my Spirit within you**, and **cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

Psalms 81:11-12 “But **my people did not listen to my voice**; Israel **would not submit to me**. So I gave them over to their **stubborn hearts**, to follow their **own counsels**.

Jeremiah 13:10 This **evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who stubbornly follow their own heart** and have gone after other gods to **serve them and worship them**, shall be like this loincloth, which is **good for nothing**.

Jeremiah 17:9 The **heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?**

Matthew 15:18-20 But what comes out of the mouth **proceeds from the heart**, and **this defiles a person**. For **out of the heart** come **evil** thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. **These are what defile a person**. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.”

Romans 8:7-8 For the mind that is set on the flesh is **hostile to God**, for it does not **submit to God’s law**; indeed, **it cannot**. Those who are in the flesh **cannot please God**.

Ephesians 2:1-3 And **you were dead in the trespasses and sins** in which you once walked, **following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that is now at work in **the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh**, carrying out the **desires of the body and the mind**, and were **by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind**.

John 6:37 **All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.**

John 6:44 **No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.**

John 3:3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.**”

2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**. The **old has passed away; behold, the new has come**.

Romans 9:17-18 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that **I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.**” So then he has **mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills**.

Romans 9:19-21 You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? **For who can resist his will?**” But **who are you, O man, to answer back to God?** Will **what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?”** Has the **potter no right over the clay**, to make out of the **same lump** one vessel for **honorable** use and another for **dishonorable** use?

Romans 9:22-24 **What if God**, desiring to **show his wrath** and to **make known his power**, has endured with much patience **vessels of wrath prepared for destruction**, in order to **make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy**, which he has **prepared beforehand for glory**— even us whom he has called, **not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?**

Romans 9:6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. **For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel...**

Romans 11:5-7 So too at the present time there is a **remnant, chosen by grace**. But if **it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works**; otherwise grace would no longer be grace. What then? **Israel failed** to obtain what it was seeking. **The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened...**

*God is absolutely sovereign, and man is a real moral agent who freely chooses according to his desires. Fallen man, guided by a heart of stone, freely chooses according to his sinful nature and cannot come to Christ on his own. That is why he must be born again: God removes the heart of stone, gives a new heart and spirit, and puts his Holy Spirit within him. The old passes away and the new comes, so the redeemed freely choose according to their new desires
—and those choices remain truly theirs.*

God is jealous for his glory, and he will not give it to another. That glory shines brightest in his grace, and his grace shone brightest at the cross, where he blessed us in the Beloved. Our salvation is therefore to the praise of his glorious grace—all of God, and not of man. If any part of it turned on our choice, the glory of that grace would be shared, and the praise would no longer be His alone.

*“To the praise of his **glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved”
Ephesians 1:6*

*“I am the LORD; that is my name; **my glory I give to no other**”
Isaiah 42:8*