

## GLORY TO GOD ALONE

Colossians 3:5-10

Psalms 115:1

Deuteronomy 8:10-18

### Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What is glory?
- What does it mean to glorify someone or give them glory?

"*Soli Deo Gloria*" is the final theme commonly included in the "five Solas" of the Protestant Reformation. This Latin phrase means "to the glory of God alone." How does this relate to our understanding of salvation? Does it mean we should never accept praise for a job well done? By examining the scripture passages that inform this theme, we can learn what it means to give God all the glory and what it looks like to do that in the words and actions of our daily lives.

**Listen:** [Glory to God Alone](#)

### Reflection

After listening, consider:

- When are you most tempted to keep for yourself the glory due to God? What things in your life do you most want to receive credit or acknowledgement for?
- In segment 1, hosts Dave Bast and Scott Hoezee discuss Colossians 3:5-10 and our human tendency toward self-centeredness. In reflecting on Colossians 3:5-10 in his commentary *Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters*, N.T. Wright notes that Paul's concern is not just for the life of the individual Christian, but also for the community. Reread Colossians 3:5-10 and consider: From your experience, what are some of the effects on the community when individuals are self-focused and allow old ways and worldly divisions to persist? On the flip side, what effects on the community have you seen when individuals are transformed by the gospel, leaving old ways behind, and living God-centered lives?
- Where do you think a good dose of humility is needed today? In which conversations are "my rights" and "my privileges" getting in the way of hearing each other? In your own life, where do your own views and perspectives keep you from lovingly interacting with others? Would humility do more to advance the conversation and honor/glorify God in these areas?
- Think of specific examples of times in your life when you received praise. For the future, identify ways you can graciously accept praise while giving God all the glory.

### Related Passages

- **Daniel 4:29-37**
- **1 Peter 4:11**
- **Revelation 4:9-11**
- **Psalm 96:1-9**

## **Conclusion**

Read Psalm 8 and Psalm 19; observe how the psalmist glorifies God in each. Choose either Psalm 8 or Psalm 19 as a model and write your own psalm that glorifies God based on the events of your life.

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<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/glory-to-god-alone>

*Printed on April 25, 2024*