Beholding Jesus' Glory

by Wayne Goff

"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world" John 17:24.

When Jesus came to the earth in His humbled state, men could still observe mentally "His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (Jn. 1:14). There is great glory that comes from one's sinlessness, perfect obedience, love for God and men, wisdom, absolute truth, etc. Jesus declared that when someone <u>saw</u> Him they <u>saw</u> the Father. These things could be spiritually discerned.

But the **glory** of which Jesus speaks in **John 17:24** is a glory yet unseen by mankind. The New Testament speaks of it often. First, He will **come** in all His radiant glory, **Titus 2:13**. "Looking for the blessed hope and **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." "When the Son of Man **comes in His glory**, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory," Matt. 25:31. See also Matthew 16:27; Mark 8:38; Luke 9:26; 1 Peter 4:13; etc.

Jesus in heaven will be revealed in His most glorious state! It is a condition which existed with Him before the world was created (Jn. 17:5). He presently has a "glorious body" (Phil. 3:21) and will give to us something that conforms to it in the resurrection! His great desire is for the faithful to behold His glory in heaven. Words cannot describe nor fathom that future view!

Jesus' revealed glory can be discovered in His Word as we are being transformed into His glorious image by the contemplation of that revelation, 2 Corinthians 3:18. "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." This is the same view which was had by those who saw Him while He was on the earth. How wonderful a privilege it is to see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ through His revelation!

352201