

## **GOD'S GREATER GLORY**

**MESSAGE BY: BR. JOSEPH ONDU**

**KEY TEXT:** Haggai 2:9 'The glory of this present house (2022) will be greater than the glory of the former house (2021),' says the Lord Almighty. 'And in this place, I will grant peace,' declares the Lord Almighty."

### **The word Greater implies:**

– Better, larger, higher, exceeding, over and above, beyond, more than.

It generally suggests something of better quality or higher in ranking....

– For there to be a greater, there must have been a great. The glory of God experienced through other year has been great, but as prophesied this year it will be greater.

– For there to be a better, there must have a good.

So whatever good you have experienced so far, there is better version reserved in 2022 for you.

There is usually good, better and best. There is a higher level of grace, favour, mercy, anointing, blessings reserved and waiting for you in 2022. If you didn't have a job, this is time for a good one. If you already had a good one, there is need for a better one. If you already had a better one, It's time for the best. Anything in your life right now, 2022 promises an opportunity for a higher level, a higher quality, over and beyond.

Well, GOD'S GLORY reflects his true nature. It describes the manifestation of God's presence as perceived by man. It refers to who God is, that's his greatness and attributes.

The most common use of the word "glory" in the Bible is to describe the splendor, holiness and majesty of God. Glory, in this sense, is often associated with a person experiencing God's presence in a tangible way. When used this way, the word glory conveys a sense of heavy dignity. One example of this is recorded in 2 Chronicles 5. According to the biblical account, God's glory filled the newly constructed temple. This was experienced tangibly by those around, who saw a cloud fill the temple. This cloud, which signified God's glory and presence, temporarily prevented the priests from conducting their duties.

## HOW DO YOU/WE MANIFEST THE GLORY OF GOD

### 1. KNOW YOUR IDENTITY

As Christians, there is a part of our identity that will remain permanent, that we often overlook and lose sight of - our identity in Christ. It's the part of our identity that doesn't depend on hair color, body type, heritage, talents, or popularity OR TRIBE

The question is, do you know your identity in Christ? Or, do you define yourself by what you do and what you've accomplished in life? Or, have you allowed other people to define who you are and who you aren't?

As Christians, not only is it important that we know our identity in Christ, but it's essential that we embrace that identity and learn to walk confidently in it.

*Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Here we see clearly that we are identified by His own image*

*John 10:34-35 - Jesus replied, "Is it not written in your Law: 'I have said you are gods'? 35 If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and the Scripture cannot be broken, secondly, we are identified as gods, we have given power and authority*

*Psalms 82:6 - I have said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High.' Thirdly we are identified as His own son.*

GOD CANNOT MANIFEST HIS GLORY FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THEIR IDENTITY IN HIM, THIS GREATER GLORY IS GIVEN AND EXPERIENCED ONLY TO HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS, THOSE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM.

The moment we accepted Christ as our Lord and Savior, we were given a new identity! It didn't erase our personality, character, heritage, or sense of style. But rather, it gave us a make-over in the form of the Holy Spirit who now lives in us. We have been rescued and redeemed from the power of sin and darkness.

It is through this new relationship with God that we have literally been adopted into a heavenly family, with direct access to God's greater glory. We are heirs to the promises in His Word, including eternal life. We now carry His name as his child

because we were chosen before we were even born, and fearfully and wonderfully crafted by God according to His purpose.

We are loved unconditionally, and forgiven of all sins (past, present, and future). We are ambassadors of God and are called to represent Him everywhere we go by extending the same love and forgiveness He extended to us.

We are and will be victorious in all things, because God is with us, and is greater than anything life can throw our way. He is always with us, and will never leave our side.

WE CANNOT PERFORM MIRACLES, IF WE DON'T KNOW OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

WE CANNOT TAP HIS ANNOINTING OR HIS GREATER GLORY MANIFESTED TO US IF WE DON'T KNOW OUR IDENTITY.

THE THINGS OF THE KINGDOM CANNOT BE REVEALED TO US IF WE DON'T KNOW OUR IDENTITY.

Other reference scriptures

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

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

John 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Philippians 3:20 - But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us

## **2. BUILD YOUR FAITH - HOW DO YOU/WE MANIFEST THE GLORY OF GOD**

Faith, at its core, is deep-rooted in the expectation of good things to come. It goes beyond hope. While much of hope lives in the mind, faith is steeped in the heart and the spirit. It can't be explained away by reason or logic, or be understood through a single dimension.

Many Christians have lost faith and hence we seriously need to work on our faith, mountains are no longer moving, miracles are not taking place, Christians are taken hostages by the world because of lack of faith

Faith is the only commanding power we are given and hence we need to ask God to increase it.

While life can be hard at the best of times, faith is the knowledge, deep down inside, that things will get better. It's taking the next step when you can't see the entire staircase. Simply meaning, life would fail to have reason if we didn't have faith.

Without faith, we couldn't expect that things would turn out all right for us no matter what the situation might be.

Faith, then, is just as important as the air we breathe. While the oxygen in the air nourishes the body, faith nourishes the heart and the soul. It's the energy that courses through every single fiber and cell within our beings. It's part of every muscle and every strand of thought. It is the fundamental foundation of our existence.

**You cannot be connected to God without Faith.**

**Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**

Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

John 8:24 unless you believe that I am who I claim to be, you will die in your sins.

John 7:38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.

**Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.**

Mark 5:36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

1 John 5:5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Romans 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

During one of the prayer session, Mama Rose insisted on why we should fast and pray for our faith, why it’s a high time for Christians and members of the church to pray that God increases our faith. It will be difficult to experience this greater glory if we are not connected to God, and the only way to be connected to God is through faith. Faith will make us tangibly experience this greater glory. Nothing comes from God to man without faith.

**Faith remains the only way to see God FACE by FACE and hence to experience this greater glory, you will require to work on your faith, ask God increase your faith.**

### **How to Build Your Faith**

- i. Hear the word of God always - Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ -**
- ii. Read and meditate on the word of God**
- iii. Spend time with God in fellowship**
- iv. Exercise your Faith – Faith without action is dead. Speak Positive words – Command your day, morning, speak blessings to your life, speak life**
- v. Spread the gospel/ Share His love**

### **3. BUILD GOD’S PRESENCE IN YOUR LIFE**

Seeking God’s Presence in everything we do, everywhere we go.

The glory is CHRIST HIMSELF. JESUS is the Express image of GOD. We are created in the image of GOD. You cannot manifest glory unless you are in HIM. You cannot manifest the glory of GOD unless you have submitted and surrender your life to JESUS CHRIST. That's the beginning of the manifestation of the glory of GOD.

Exodus 33:14, NIV The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Exodus 33:15, NIV Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.

Are you aware of God's presence in your daily life? The reality is that God is always with us. But we don't always recognize Him in our everyday lives. We see Him when we read the Bible or go to church, but we overlook His presence in the small details of our days. Is it possible to have awareness of God's presence in our daily lives?

God is always present with us. When we put our faith in Jesus, God gives us His Spirit, who dwells with us and in us (see John 14:16-17). But in the stress and rush of our lives, it can be a challenge to recognize that He is with us. However, it is possible to practice and learn to be aware of God's presence.

Awareness of God's presence is a simple spiritual discipline just like Bible reading, prayer, or worship. It isn't mystical, mysterious, or esoteric, and it isn't only for those who spend all their waking hours praying and seeking God.

Instead, being aware of God's presence is for every Christian, because Jesus promised to be with us always. It's known by some as "practicing the presence of God" or simply "communion with God."

Here are 7 Reasons why we should spend time with God; we should abide in Him

1. There is joy in God's presence
2. We receive protection from dwelling in God's presence. Staying in His presence brings us under His shadow of protection
3. We find peace in His presence
4. God leads, guides and directs us as we spend time with Him.
5. The fire and power of His presence melts away every mountain; every obstacle and hindrance before us, and every satanic plan for our lives.
6. . Our fears and insecurities, our pains and burdens are lifted, are taken away as we come into God's presence

7. . We are changed, refined and transformed in His presence. His presence takes away the chaff in our character and makes us better people.

#### **4. SPIRITUAL HUNGER**

The visible power of God is known as Shekinah's glory. In the Old Testament, we see this glory appearing in the form of fire, smoke, and cloud.

Stir up your spiritual hunger by asking God to fill you up with his presence. When you pursue God passionately through worship, you receive great outpourings from him.

Contrary to what some Christians believe, we can still see these great manifestations of God today. But you need to have a spiritual hunger for you to see these manifestations.

Like other things in your spiritual life, you need faith to experience God's glory in your life.

You cannot see the glory of God if you are not expecting it.

#### **5. THROUGH PRAYER**

Most of us would love to see the manifestation of God's glory the way people did in the Old Testament. But we never ask God to manifest his presence in our lives.

If you want to experience the glory of God, you need to ask God to manifest his presence in your life. Moses asked God to show him his glory in Exodus 33:18, and God did.

Every Christian can manifest God's glory here on earth; we only need to ask.

prayer should be a way of life, not just for use in cases of emergency

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?"

#### **6. HONOUR GOD'S GLORY**

It is important for our hearts to be right. Our hearts need to be given to God in entirety. All that we do should be for his honor and glory—and we rejoice in being called to proclaim his praises (1 Peter 2:9).

God has done marvelous things for us! The love he has shown us in Jesus Christ is beyond our ability to understand (Ephesians 3:19). The joy he gives us in salvation is



beyond our ability to express (1 Peter 1:8). The peace he gives is also beyond our comprehension (Philippians 4:7). Words simply fail to describe adequately the experience of salvation we have in Jesus Christ.

How shall we respond to these magnificent blessings? With worship—with praise and thanksgiving, giving glory and honor to God. This is our privilege and our joy. Our relationship with God is characterized by love, joy, peace, praise and worship.

**You attract that which you honor. See, God is not going to manifest himself in your life so that you can brag about it. If you want God to manifest himself in you and through you, honor his glory.**

## **7. WALK-IN LOVE**

MARK 12:31 - The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these.

GOD CHOOSES FOR US OUR NEIGHBOURS AND NOT FRIENDS and therefore we ought to love one another.

To experience the fullness of God's glory, you need to walk in love because God is love. Do not expect God's Glory to manifest in your life fully if you do not love others.

### **1 John 4:20**

If someone has offended you, forgive them. If you have offended someone, ask for forgiveness, and choose to walk in love. As we have already seen, you cannot operate in God's glory without faith. But here's the thing faith works by love.

So, there is no way you can experience God's fullness without having love in your heart. Start practicing these seven things, and when you do that, you will see God's glory manifesting in your life.

"Walking in love, is a simple way of walking with Christ"

## **BENEFITS OF GOD'S GLORY.**

### **1. The Glory of God will change your heart.**

One of the benefits of God's glory is a change of heart. When God manifests his presence in your life, you get to know who he really is.



That is to say, God's glory reveals his attributes to us. When Moses asked God to reveal his glory to him, God answered by showing him who he was.

Moses got to see the true nature of God. He learned that God was long-suffering, loving, patient, and kind. This revelation made Moses fall down on his knees and worship God.

Moses had known God as a Miracle worker and deliverer. But when God manifested his glory to him, he got to understand who he is, and his heart was changed. (Exodus 34:8)

If you want a change of heart, then ask God to manifest his glory in your life.

Seeing how much he loves you, his patience, and kindness towards you will help to change your heart. Like Moses, you will start to worship God for who he really is.

## **2. Brings Correction.**

The way parents discipline their children is the way God disciplines us. He does that so that we can walk in a way that is pleasing to him.

When Isaiah had a revelation of God's glory, he immediately became aware of his sin. He cried out, 'Woe to me! I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips (Isaiah 6:5).

God's glory will expose your heart and show you who you are. It will show you the things that you should not do and those that you should stop doing.

Okay, let's be clear on this. God will not strike you with thunder and lightning. He will not strike you with diseases or kill your loved one to discipline you.

God will correct you gently when you are wrong.

## **3. It helps you step into your divine appointment.**

Before Isaiah was commissioned to do God's work, he had a revelation of God's glory (Isaiah 6). The way he revealed himself to Isaiah, God will reveal himself to you before you step into your divine appointment.

Ask God to reveal his glory to you so that you can know what he wants you to do. You will get to know what lies ahead of you and how to do it.

## **4. God's glory leads to revealed instructions.**

For us to live in the plans God has laid out for us, we need to know those plans. Not just that, but we need God's direction so that we can know how to accomplish his plans.

Moses had to spend time in God's presence before he got the ten commandments. The Bible says when he went up to the mountain, the glory of the Lord settled on the mountain.

The Israelites saw the glory of God as a consuming fire while Moses saw it as a cloud. (Exodus 24: 15-18)

To do great things for the kingdom of God, you need God's glory to be upon your life. His glory will cause you to have a revelation about your purpose.

### **5. Transforms Us into His Likeness.**

You cannot have a full revelation of God's glory and remain the same. When you spend time in God's presence, he will transform you into the image of his son Jesus.

When Moses spent time in God's presence, his face started to glow. So much so that the Israelites became afraid, and he had to cover it up.

We can also experience transformation and become more like Jesus when we spend time in scripture. The word of God opens us up to experience the glory of God.

### **6. Humbles us.**

The Bible tells us that Moses was the meekest man on earth. Now it is hard for people to call you meek once they know that you committed murder in the past.

In this current world, people will always judge you based on your mistakes. Thankfully, God is not like that. He described Moses as a meek man. But how did Moses become meek? He spent time in the presence of God.

When you experience God's glory in fullness, you will become humble like Moses. His glory will cause you to understand how loving and forgiving God is towards you.

When you get this revelation, it will humble you just like Moses.

### **7. You will be Faithfully Guided.**

God reveals his plans to us bit by bit. Why does he do that? He wants you to rely on him.

See, If God revealed everything to us, most of us would forget about him and chase after other things. We would not rely on him fully for guidance.

It is through spending time with him that he guides us in the way that we should go. He gives us direction on what to do so that we can walk in his ways and glorify his name.

**REMAIN BLESSED AS YOU EXPERIENCE GOD'S GREATER GLORY THIS YEAR IN JESUS NAME.**