

Sermon Outline

The Story of Glory

Christmas 2023

Introduction: How do you define glory?

I. Approaching a Definition of glory

Kavod, doxa, shekinah

Kavod = weighty (literal and figurative)

Eschatological glory (Is 40:5, Rev 21:10-11,23-24)

Glory communicates God's special presence

Theophany (physical manifestation of God's presence)

Kavod conveys more immanence than transcendence

II. The story of glory (Biblical Theology of the Glory of God)

The eternal, holy, triune God communicates his glory through His creation, image-bearers, providence, redemptive acts, and his reign and judgment.

Genesis – creation (ch 1), Abraham (ch 15), NOT Levi (ch 49)

Exodus – Moses meets God's glory (ch 3, 33)

Numbers – God directed His people by Shekinah (19:15-23)

The glory from Tabernacle to Temple (2 Chr 7)

Ezekiel – the glory departs (9:3, 10:18-19, 11:22-23)

Tradition replaces glory

God's curse on Levi (Malachi 2:1-2)

The promise that glory would return (Hag 2:9, Is 9:2-7)

III. One final return of glory

A star in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:9)

The glory of the latter house (Luke 2:30-32)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing