The Glory of Grace

2 corinthians 3:7-11

1. Intro
   1. Recap:
      1. Correction is good
      2. Conviction is good
      3. Dependance on Christ is good
      4. Jesus is enough, and that is good
   2. Law vs. Grace discussion
   3. There is little glory left in the law when compared to the GLORY of GRACE
2. Text
   1. Enough: 2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
   2. Verse 7: The Glory that was in the OLD Covenant
      1. Glory in God delivering a message
      2. Glory in hearing from God
      3. Glory in encountering God
   3. Verse 8
      1. The law was but a glimpse
      2. The ministry of the Spirit was the promise for eternity
   4. Verse 9-10
      1. If there was glory in the law…and God’s glory was obviously there since Moses truly encountered God
      2. How much more glory is found in the real point all along
      3. How much more glory is found in the God of the old and new covenant living inside the believer
   5. Verse 11: The fullness of God’s plan has the fullness of God’s glory
3. Points
   1. **What Glory was in the Law?**
      1. The old covenant was from God, therefore it was glorious
      2. Exodus 34:29-35 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.d 30Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. 31But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. 32Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. 33And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. 34Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, 35the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses’ face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.
      3. Notice the word most accurately used to describe the message on the tablets: the testimony
         1. This is the testimony of God
         2. The ark of the covenant is also referred to as the ark of the testimony
         3. The testimony:
            1. a: a solemn declaration usually made orally by a witness under oath in response to interrogation by a lawyer or authorized public official
            2. b: firsthand authentication of a fact : EVIDENCE
            3. c: an outward sign
      4. The Testimony was a blessing, it was an encounter with God, it was GOOD…but it wasn’t the point.
      5. Think about the law and the sacrifices:
         1. bloody, gruesome, painful
         2. But it was sweet a smelling aroma to the Lord.
         3. He knew the promises and plans of the future…and it was really good!
      6. The Law was preparation, the Point was Jesus.
   2. **What Glory is in Grace?**
      1. After we encounter the fullness of God, we are challenged by His sovereignty and holiness
      2. And that makes GRACE so much more glorious!
      3. When we recognize what little we have to offer, and that we are dead in our sin, we find the GLORY OF GRACE to be almost unimaginable.
      4. Grace is AMAZING, but why?
         1. Amazing because of the price that it cost to provide
         2. Amazing because of the worth that is ascribed to us in it.
         3. Amazing because of the relationship is provides
      5. We are in a relationship with God:
         1. By His design
         2. For His glory
      6. And we are blessed with salvation BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH
   3. **What Glory is salvation?**
      1. What does it mean to be saved?
         1. Young lady that ask about physically being ‘saved’
         2. I explained that that was exactly the concept of salvation and grace.
      2. What are we saved from?
      3. Let us glory in being saved and experiencing God’s grace
      4. Salvation is not simply fire insurance from hell, it is a life of blessing, glory, and change
      5. And change is good!
      6. What changes?
         1. God doesn’t change...
         2. So that leaves us
            1. We are transformed
            2. And are BEING transformed
         3. This causes us to love
         4. And allows us to find the joy in being loved!
   4. **What Glory is in relationship?**
      1. This love relationship is the continued miracle of salvation
      2. Not just saved from hell, but also saved to a relationship with God.
      3. Not just a salvation from a death that is separation from God
      4. Not just saved from law that showed us just how separated we were.
      5. But a salvation that gives us LIFE
      6. Do you experience LIFE in what you call a relationship with God?
4. Close
   1. Obedience, Grace, Salvation, and relationship give you a new testimony
   2. All your stories of God’s goodness should not be in the past, though the past should indicate His future actions.
   3. You have a story to tell and a story to live.
   4. The new testimony will be like the old, but better…His Grace is sufficient.