

The Glory of God is Intelligence

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The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth.¹

God receives His glory through His children being obedient to the laws and ordinances of the gospel. The more obedient we are, the more glory God receives. Which if you think about it, if we become exulted, and have children of our own, their obedience will bring us glory in which we will glorify the Father. Feels like a never ending process.

In order to achieve the Celestial Kingdom, you have to go through the temple and obey all of those ordinances and covenants. Which means paying ten percent of your income. Feels like a pay to play kind of deal, even though they say that's not the case. But I digress. That is a discussion for another time.

By this we understand that the principle of power, which existed in the bosom of God, by which the worlds were framed, was faith; and that it is by reason of this principle of power, existing in the Deity, that all created things exist—so that all things in heaven, on earth, or under the earth, exist by reason of faith, as it existed in HIM

Had it not been for the principle of faith the worlds would never have been framed, neither would man have been formed of the dust—it is the principle by which Jehovah works, and through which he exercises power over all temporal, as well as eternal things. Take this principle or attribute, (for it is an attribute) from the Deity and he would cease to exist.²

Okay, so that says that Faith is God's power. Faith brings about obedience to God's laws. This obedience brings about intelligence which brings about God's glory. It all ties back to the same thing over and over again. If you take the time to think about it, it makes sense.

If no one believed in God, there would be no use for Him. We would find other ways to get on with life without a supreme being watching over us all. Without God we are nothing. It's a plain and simple truth. We wouldn't be here without God. We wouldn't have things to strive for if there wasn't a God. So He needs

¹Doctrine and Covenants 93:36

²Lectures on Faith 1:15-16

us just as we need Him. Now there's a thought, no followers no belief system, no nothing. There would be nothing, we would be nothing. But there's a catch to it all, we can't be nothing for we *are* something. We are children of a loving Heavenly Father.

Don't we owe it to God to follow Him? He knows what's best for us. Old teachings have stated that God's been through what we're currently going through and we can become like Him. I'm not sure if that's taught anymore to be honest. There are many teachings that have been taught in the past that no longer seem relevant to our present day. I'm not sure why that is, but it tends to happen.

What is required of men here is that they should live up to their privileges which they enjoy, fill the measure of their own creation in usefulness, and show that they are filled with the thought, which should be even present with every child of God, that we are gods in embryo, and that we must ascend from one step to another until we reach a place similar to that which our elder brother Jesus occupies, and which the great Father himself has enjoyed and does enjoy.

Is it blasphemy that the son should aspire to be like his father? Is it blasphemy to say that we are brothers of and joint heirs with Jesus Christ? And to say that we will some day be as our Heavenly Father is, creating and controlling worlds; that our posterity shall be, like the promise which was given to Abraham, as numerous as the sand upon the seashore, or as the stars of Heaven? No, it is not blasphemy. It is the aspiration that should fill every soul and that should prompt us to walk steadily forward in the way that God has marked out.³

“Gods in embryo” is an interesting way of putting it. Old teachings for the win I suppose. Like I said above, if we become like God then wouldn't his glory be ever-increasing? Makes you think about it doesn't it. Yeah, that's what I was thinking for sure. Perhaps a more “recent” quote?

As God's offspring, we have His attributes in us. We are gods in embryo, and thus have an unlimited potential for progress and attainment. (Miami, Florida, 19 March 1976.)⁴

What once was taught was an interesting premise. It might not be taught anymore, but it was once taught as freely and open as possible. Why hide the truth of teachings that were once taught openly? I do not understand any of it or how that could be possible. Is it considered blasphemy if we are to still believe in such teachings? I know people like to go for simpler answers. They don't want what is considered “deep doctrine.” Well, it's there isn't it? I mean why else would it have been taught for so many years, just to be put down quietly? I don't think so.

³Collected Discourses 1886-1898, Volume 4. July 1st, 1894. Abraham H. Cannon

⁴The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson. Gospel Principles and Doctrines: The Plan of Salvation. 1988. Ezra Taft Benson.