

LIFE Group Leader Handout

September 15, 2019

Doxa

Pastor Michael O'Connor

Scripture--2 Corinthians 3:7-18

7 Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, 8 will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? 9 For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. 10 Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. 11 For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

12 Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, 13 not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. 14 But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. 15 Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. 16 But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Main Idea--The New Testament Ministry is One of Continuing Transformation to Greater Glory

doxa (n.) Greek for glory

The Glory Comparison--the law was not permanent and brought condemnation. The ministry of the gospel is a ministry that brings righteousness, is of the Spirit and is permanent.

So what does glory in the church look like? See John 1:14

Is Island Christian Church a glorious church? Evidences.

What are the steps toward greater glory?

- Get real before God and his people
- Re-commit to a life of holiness
- Stand firm in the truth of the gospel
- Lavish gospel grace

The results in our lives and in our church—transformed, hopeful people become bold in faith

Application--

- What gospel truths were new or freshly appreciated because of this message?
- How has your gaze shifted away from less worthy things to the Lord?
- We gaze upon him as we meditate upon his word, as we appreciate his creation, as we see his works in our lives and the lives of others--which of these has been increasing in your life?
- God's plan is that we be hopeful. Is that increasing? What are the major barriers in your life to a hopeful outlook, and what application are you making from this message?