

Rethinking Glory & Faith

Ruth read this section for us at our last gathering.

“Our bent toward the natural realm should be to somehow see the glory of God in all things. Remember that we are made in God's image. Ever wondered what God looks like? You look like Him in a lot of ways. Even the natural realm reflects God. God created matter, and nature is not utterly corrupted. We should have an eye for redeeming even those things which are used for evil. When God created the earth, He saw that it was good. This is because the very earth declared His majesty. And there is a higher purpose in store for the earth that prompted God to redeem it. Although we may not always be aware of it, "the whole earth is full of His glory" Isa. 6:3). Keep in mind that this verse was written after the fall, yet it is still truth. The Kingdom of God is always just at hand-within fingertip reach even while we are in this world-the problem is, His glory usually goes unnoticed.

*Like Elisha's servant, we need our eyes opened to the spirit realm, even amid this earthly reality. Heaven is **already** touching earth, we are just not aware of it. We need to manifest this reality. One day, the earth will also be filled with the **knowledge** of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea (see Hab. 2:14). That is, one day we will be aware of the omnipresent God who is already in our midst. It is not that the angelic realm will step into our world, but that we will enter more into theirs through a consciousness – an awareness – of God's reality. That, after all, is faith. Believing in the unseen. There will be such an acute consciousness of God's glory that we will see His reflection everywhere we look, even amid our mundane, natural circumstances.*

*We often pray for God's glory to come. But we should be asking to see and know the glory that is **already at hand**. We are not to pull Heaven down from some hazy, unreachable place. Heaven is already within us – we must learn to release it through simple belief...*

The Lord is calling us to a radical shift of perspective. The church has long considered "faith" to be a set of mental beliefs and intellectual principles. But living in the realm of the mind – and pursuing a strict knowledge-based spirituality – often causes us to neglect the simplistic childlike expectancy that constitutes true Heavenly wisdom.”¹