

Simon Field / General Adult

Theology for Life

I. History of the Doctrine

Glorification is deification- becoming like God, but how?

- 2 Peter 1:4 "By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire."

Origen (185-253)

Irenaeus (130-?)

Language of Glorification

- Divine/Divine Energies/Creatures

"We know the essence through the energy. No one has ever seen the essence of God, but we believe in the essence because we experience the energy"- Basil.

II. The Doctrine of Glorification

Back to 2 Peter

- 2 Peter 1:4–8 "By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Glorification is the last stage of Sanctification

- 2 Corinthians 3:18 "We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory

of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

- 2 Corinthians 4:16–17 “Therefore we do not give up. Even though our outer person is being destroyed, our inner person is being renewed day by day. For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory.”

It follows that glorification happens when we see God.

- 1 Corinthians 13:12 “For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known.”
- Matthew 5:8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

The purpose of glorification: being finally transformed to be in the image of Jesus

- Romans 8:29–30 “For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.”
- Romans 1:3–4 “concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh and was appointed to be the powerful Son of God according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead.”
- “In his immense love he became what we are, that he might make us what he is”- Irenaeus

Glorification is a disclosure: It will reveal the reality of our righteousness by adoption as Jesus’ resurrection vindicated him as the righteous Son of God

- Romans 1:3–4 “concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh and was appointed to be the powerful Son of God according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead.”
- Romans 8:18–19 “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God’s sons to be revealed.”

Glorification is participating in Christ’s bodily resurrection

- Philippians 3:20–21 “Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subject everything to himself.”
- Job 19:26 “Even after my skin has been destroyed, yet I will see God in my flesh.”
- 1 Corinthians 15:53 “For this corruptible body must be clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body must be clothed with immortality.”

III. Jesus is our Salvation

“We see that our whole salvation and all its parts are comprehended in Christ. We should therefore take care not to derive the least portion of it anywhere else. If we seek salvation, we are taught by the very name of Jesus that it is “of him.” If we seek any other gifts of the Spirit, they will be found in his anointing. If we seek strength, it lies in his dominion, if purity, in his conception; if gentleness, it appears in his birth. For by his birth he was made like us in all respects that he might learn to feel our pain. If we seek redemption, it lies in his passion; if acquittal, in his condemnation; if remission of the curse, in his cross; if satisfaction, in his sacrifice; if purification, in his blood; if reconciliation, in his descent into hell; if mortification of the flesh, in his tomb; if newness of life, in his resurrection... if inheritance of the heavenly kingdom, in his entrance into heaven; if protection, if security, if abundant supply of all blessings, in his kingdom; if untroubled expectation of judgement, in the power given him to judge. In short, since rich store of every kind of good abounds in him, let us drink our fill from this fountain and from no other” - John Calvin