

## **“Bringing Many Sons to Glory”**

**Intro:** Maybe you’ve seen a list of question people would like to ask God. People want to know, “Why does God allow suffering in the world?” “Why is there evil in the world?” And a question often asked is, “Why did God create humans?” Or “What is our purpose?” “What is God doing with His creation?” Did you ever think about that? Was it to satisfy some need of His?

**Maybe we can find a satisfactory answer in Heb. 2:10.**

*“For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.” (Hebrews 2:10)*

**If we were to take a big-picture view of our world we might see in this verse what God is doing in that one phrase “bringing many sons to glory.”**

**(When the Hebrew writer uses the word “sons,” we are not to think that God seeks of the glorification of only males. In this case, “sons” is an all-inclusive term that might be translated “children” or more fully “sons and daughters.” So keep that in mind as reflect upon this concept.)**

**If we think about this ultimate destination, it could only be appreciated by looking at the plan that culminates in this final act of God of “bringing many sons to glory.” It is a story that begins before the creation of our world. So let’s start there. Before the creation...**

**The Father’s eternal relationship with His son was perfect.**

***He existed in the very image of His Father.***

*“And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature,” (Hebrews 1:3)*

*“And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation.” (Colossians 1:15)*

***As the only begotten of the Father, He experienced the Father’s glory***

*“And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.” (John 17:5, ESV)*

***He fully experienced and enjoyed the Father’s love. What the Father said of Jesus on earth has always been true:***

*“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)*

***There could have been no relationship more perfect than that of the Father with His Son in eternity.***

**But the Father desired to have “many sons.”**

***We could say it was a desire grounded in His love.***

*“The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” (1 John 4:8)*

*A heart of love seeks people to love; consequently the Father in His great love sought objects of His love. Maybe we also say it was a desire made attractive by the Father's relationship with His beloved Son.*

*And so with and through the Son, our world came into being, with humans being the culminating act of His creation. God had made it possible to have "many sons."*

*"in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world." (Hebrews 1:2)*

*It is important to understand that this was not a desire that made God incomplete without our existence. We were not made to meet some "need" of God such that He is incomplete without us.*

*"neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things;" (Acts 17:25)*

*And yet the Father chose to bring us into existence that He might have "many sons."*

### **The Father took a great risk in creating other sons.**

*He made us in His image and likeness with the power of choice.*

*"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (Genesis 1:26)*

*Would God be satisfied to have human "robots" who could only love and serve Him? Or would He seek sons like His Son who loved Him and obeyed Him out of His desire to please Him? He made us "free moral agents."*

*But that also made possible the risk of rebellion. What if humans chose to rebel? What if they failed to appreciate the motivations for their creation? They could and they did! The first human pair listened to the tempter who sought to persuade them that being a child of God was not enough. They could exercise their will and be gods too! Incited by the great lie, they sinned and were driven from the presence of God. And their experience has been the experience of us all. God's desire for "many sons" was rewarded with a world full of rebellious sons.*

*He could have chosen to annihilate us. He could have sent us away from His presence forever. But instead...*

### **The Father sent His only begotten Son to redeem His fallen sons.**

*God in His love chose to redeem us. It is at the heart of the golden text of Scripture:*

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16)*

*And so God's only begotten came and gave His life to redeem us from sin and restore us to the family of God. By responding to the Spirit's good news of salvation, we can become His sons (and daughters).*

*"For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." (Romans 8:14)*

*“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.”*

*(Romans 8:16–17)*

***And now that He has redeemed us...***

**The Father wants His redeemed sons to be like His Son.**

***What the heavenly father always desired were more sons like His Son.***

*“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;”*

*(Romans 8:29)*

***And if we live like God’s Son, then He will love us like He loved His only begotten.***

*“He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him.”* (John 14:21)

*“Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.”* (John 14:23)

***Amazingly the Father wants to have the relationship with all His sons that He has with His only begotten Son.***

**The Father will bring His redeemed sons to share His glory and that of His Son.**

***Jesus prayed for this.***

*“Father, I desire that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am, in order that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me; for Thou didst love Me before the foundation of the world.”* (John 17:24)

***And the Father will one day bring it about. The day will come when Jesus’ prayer to the Father is answered; and all those who are the true sons of God will be where He is forever and experience the glory that He had before coming to this earth.***

*“For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.”* (Romans 8:19)

***What a day that will be! It is all summarized in those simple words of the Hebrew writer-- “bringing many sons to glory.”***

**What lessons can we learn from this?**

***We were made for a relationship with God.***

Paul told the Athenians that humans were created..

*“that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;”* (Acts 17:27)

What meaning can our lives have separate and apart from the plan and purposes of God?

***We were made not for earth, but for heaven.***

It is made known in Jesus’ pronouncement of our future invitation at the judgment:

*‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ (Matthew 25:34)*

Our time on earth is short and it is only a blink of the eye in comparison with our eternal dwelling place. Death itself is but a doorway to an eternal life.

**The Creator of the universe has given us an amazing opportunity.**

We can become the sons of God through faith in Christ.

*“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Galatians 3:26–27)*

If we are not the children of God, we will have not met our reason for existence. If we have not become like Jesus, we will have not met our reason for existence. We will have missed the greatest opportunity.

**If we reject God’s offer of eternal life with Him He will have no choice but to send us away from Him eternally.**

God patiently waits until every last son comes to Him.

But all who seek to be children of God must come to Him in faith in the provisions He has made for our forgiveness and our Christ-like holiness!

**Conclusion: Have you come to see why you were created? Are you a child of God? Are you living like the Son? Are you longing to be where He is? Do you have the hope of glory?**