

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

The Glory that Transforms

### Speaker:

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### Date:

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

### Scriptures:

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

**Theme:** Behold the Lord's glory and be transformed.

**Introduction:** Beholding something glorious (or terrible) can dramatically change our perspective. Christians already know this—we have beheld the most surpassing glory, and we have been transformed. Perhaps we need to open our eyes again, or maybe we need to focus more intently.

Second Corinthians 3 teaches us how we can behold the glory of the Lord:

### 1. Notice the Glory of Living Letters (1-6)

- Paul has been dealing with division in the Corinthian church, and those who doubted Paul were likely tempted to be put off by his apparent unimpressiveness and his attempts at putting himself forward.
- The Corinthians who doubted Paul were blind to the Lord's glory, and Paul is working to open their eyes.
- The "letter of recommendation" is written by the Spirit of God on their hearts. Everyone who believes is a display of the glory of the Lord.
- The Mosaic Law has no power to save; the Spirit gives life and brings new birth.

### 2. Gaze Upon the Greater Glory (7-18)

- After speaking with the Lord, Moses would leave with the glory of God shining on his face. Believers likewise have the glory of the Lord shining on them.
- Paul's point was that the Corinthian church was blind to the glory around them.
- The glory that we have in Christ far surpasses the old glory that caused Moses's face to shine.
  - The glory of the Old Covenant was being brought to an end, and it was a ministry of condemnation ("the letter kills"). The glory of the New Covenant is eternal and is a ministry of righteousness ("the Spirit gives life").
- There are benefits when we open our eyes to the glory of the gospel: namely, boldness and freedom.

### Questions:

1. Reflect on the glory of God in saving you. How do you see the Lord's glory in it?
2. How might you be blind to the glory of God around you (in the church, in your family, etc)?
3. How does opening your eyes to God's glory result in boldness and freedom in your life?