Title: Dying To Self, Glorifying God

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Date: 12 January 2014 (am)



A grain of wheat

John 12:23-26

²³But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor."

What is Glory?

How do we live extraordinary lives?

John 12:27-30

²⁷"Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again." Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake."

"But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name."

Jesus' purpose = to die = to glorify His name.

Seed and fruit

An apple: what do you see in your fruit?

1 Corinthians 15:36-37

³⁶ What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. When you sow, you do not plant the body of the plant that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else."

Genesis 1:11

¹¹"and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself"

a. A grain of wheat dies – How?

How do we die to self?

- Laying down of own plans
- Being humble
- Serving

Matthew 23:12

¹²"And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Matthew 23:12 (The Message)

¹²"Do you want to stand out? Then step down. Be a servant. If you puff yourself up, you'll get the wind knocked out of you. But if you're content to simply be yourself, your life will count for plenty."

Luke 14:11

¹¹"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

John 15:13

¹³"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

Phillipians

²¹"For me to live is Christ [His life in me], and to die is gain [the gain of the glory of eternity]!"

Living to die ≠ Dying to live

b. Grain of wheat dies – Why?

John 12:28

²⁸"But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."

c. Glory of God

Luke 4:18

¹⁸ The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed."