

# TRANSFORMING GLORY THIEVES





## THE DANGER OF STEALING GLORY

**“NOW HEROD WAS ANGRY WITH THE PEOPLE OF TYRE AND SIDON, AND THEY CAME TO HIM WITH ONE ACCORD, AND HAVING PERSUADED BLASTUS, THE KING'S CHAMBERLAIN, THEY ASKED FOR PEACE, BECAUSE THEIR COUNTRY DEPENDED ON THE KING'S COUNTRY FOR FOOD. ”**

**- ACTS 12:20, ESV**



## THE DANGER OF STEALING GLORY

**“ON AN APPOINTED DAY  
HEROD PUT ON HIS ROYAL  
ROBES, TOOK HIS SEAT UPON  
THE THRONE, AND  
DELIVERED AN ORATION TO  
THEM. AND THE PEOPLE  
WERE SHOUTING, ‘THE VOICE  
OF A GOD, AND NOT OF A  
MAN!’”**

**- ACTS 12:21-22, ESV**



## THE DANGER OF STEALING GLORY

**“IMMEDIATELY AN ANGEL OF THE LORD STRUCK HIM DOWN, BECAUSE HE DID NOT GIVE GOD THE GLORY, AND HE WAS EATEN BY WORMS AND BREATHED HIS LAST. BUT THE WORD OF GOD INCREASED AND MULTIPLIED.”**

**- ACTS 12:23-24, ESV**

**THE DANGER OF SELF-LOVE**

**WE GROW**

**SMALL**

**TRYING TO BE**

**GREAT.**



## THE NATURE OF SIN

**“INCURVATUS  
IN SE”**

**CURVE IN  
OURSELVES**





## THE RESULT OF THE FALL

“THE RUIN THAT THE FALL BROUGHT UPON THE SOUL OF MAN CONSISTS VERY MUCH IN HIS LOSING THE NOBLER AND MORE BENEVOLENT PRINCIPLES OF HIS NATURE, AND FALLING WHOLLY UNDER THE POWER AND GOVERNMENT OF SELF-LOVE.”

- JONATHAN EDWARDS



## THE RESULT OF THE FALL

“BEFORE, AND AS GOD CREATED HIM, HE WAS EXALTED AND NOBLE, AND GENEROUS; BUT NOW HE IS DEBASED, AND IGNOBLE, AND SELFISH.

IMMEDIATELY UPON THE FALL, THE MIND OF MAN SHRANK FROM ITS PRIMITIVE GREATNESS AND EXPANDEDNESS, TO AN EXCEEDING SMALLNESS AND CONTRACTEDNESS.”

- JONATHAN EDWARDS



THE DANGER OF SELF-LOVE

**THE LOVE OF  
DISTINCTION  
DESTROYS OUR  
NATURAL  
NOBILITY AND  
ABILITY**



## THE LOVE OF DISTINCTION

**“BUT AMONG ALL THE PASSIONS WHICH MISLEAD, ENDANGER, AND HARASS THE MIND, NONE IS MORE HOSTILE TO ITS PEACE, NONE MORE BLIND, NONE MORE DELIRIOUS THAN THE LOVE OF DISTINCTION.”**

**- TIMOTHY DWIGHT,  
1814 AD**



## THE LOVE OF DISTINCTION

**“SELFISHNESS IS ITS NATURE  
LITTLE AND BASE. BUT NO  
PASSION AND NO PURSUITS  
ARE MORE ABSOLUTELY  
SELFISH THAN THE LOVE OF  
DISTINCTION. ONE’S SELF IS  
HERE THE SOLE OBJECT; AND  
IN THIS OBJECT ALL THE  
LABORS, PURSUITS AND  
WISHES TERMINATE.”**

**- TIMOTHY DWIGHT, 1814 AD**



## THE LOVE OF DISTINCTION

**“HOW TERRIBLE MUST BE THE ACCOUNT GIVEN OF LIFE SPENT ONLY IN LABORING TO ACQUIRE DISTINCTION. ADAM INDULGED THIS DISPOSITION ONCE AND LOST HIS IMMORTALITY. SATAN INDULGED THIS DISPOSITION ONCE AND WAS CAST OUT OF HEAVEN.”**

**- TIMOTHY DWIGHT, 1814 AD**



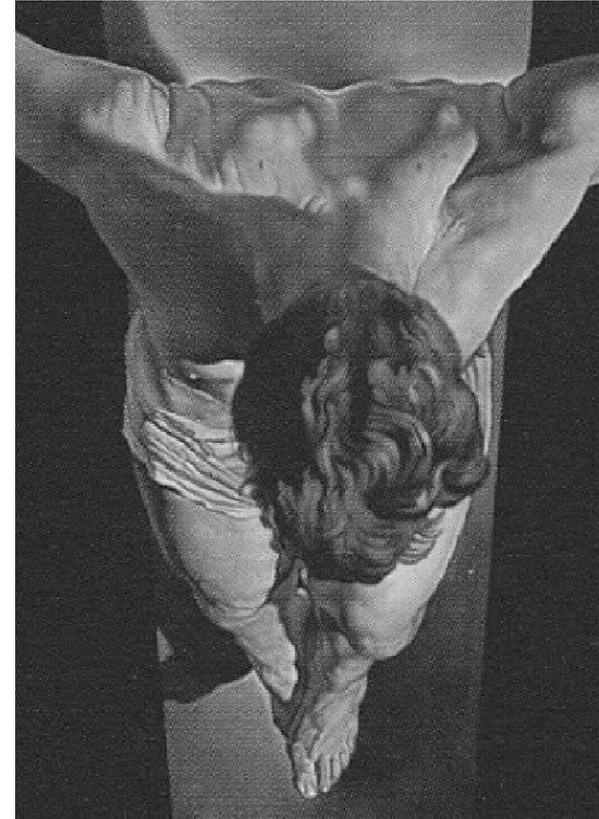
## THE LOVE OF DISTINCTION

**“WHAT WILL BECOME OF HIM WHO HAS EAGERLY FOLLOWED THIS CAREER OF HIS APOSTATE FIRST PARENT AND OF THIS APOSTATE ANGEL THROUGHOUT THE HOWL OF HIS PROBATION?”**

**- TIMOTHY DWIGHT, 1814**

# TRANSFORMING GLORY THIEVES

**WE ARE  
TRANSFORMED FROM  
GLORY THIEVES TO  
DECLARERS OF GOD'S  
GLORY WHEN WE  
FOLLOW IN THE  
PARADOXICAL WAY OF  
THE CROSS OF JESUS.**



# PARADOX 1

Fulfillment is  
found in  
Emptiness

“...WHO, THOUGH  
HE WAS IN THE  
FORM OF GOD, DID  
NOT COUNT  
EQUALITY WITH  
GOD A THING TO  
BE GRASPED, BUT  
MADE HIMSELF  
NOTHING...”

- PHIL. 2:6-7, ESV



**FULFILLMENT IS FOUND IN  
EMPTINESS**



**“THE GOSPEL REMINDS  
US THAT CHRIST WAS  
COSMICALLY DOWNSIZED  
TO COME AND DIE FOR US.  
HE WAS REALLY  
SOMETHING, BUT MADE  
HIMSELF NOTHING.”**



**- DAVE HARVEY**



# PARADOX 2

It is wrong to  
first think about  
our “rights”

“DO NOTHING  
FROM RIVALRY OR  
CONCEIT, BUT IN  
HUMILITY COUNT  
OTHERS MORE  
SIGNIFICANT THAN  
YOURSELVES.”

- PHIL. 2:6-7, ESV



**IT IS WRONG TO FIRST THING  
ABOUT OUR “RIGHTS”**

**“FEW THINGS ARE MORE  
DEPRESSING THAN THAT OF A  
PROFESSED CHRISTIAN  
DEFENDING HIS SUPPOSED  
RIGHTS AND BITTERLY  
RESISTING ANY ATTEMPT TO  
VIOLATE THEM. SUCH A  
CHRISTIAN HAS NEVER  
ACCEPTED THE WAY OF THE  
CROSS.”**

**- A. W. TOZER**

# PARADOX 3

It is really  
something to  
be nothing

**“TAKING THE  
FORM OF A  
SERVANT,  
BEING BORN IN  
THE LIKENESS  
OF MEN.”**

**- PHIL. 2:7, ESV**



**IT IS REALLY SOMETHING TO  
NOTHING**

**“IN A FUNDAMENTAL  
SENSE SLAVERY  
INVOLVES THE ABSENCE  
OF RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY  
THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE  
THE COURSE OF ONE’S  
LIFE AND THE USE OF  
ONE’S ENERGIES.”**

**- MURRAY HARRIS**

# PARADOX 4

In self-evaluation,  
don't trust what  
you see

**“I SAY TO  
EVERYONE AMONG  
YOU NOT TO THINK  
OF HIMSELF MORE  
HIGHLY THAN HE  
OUGHT TO THINK,  
BUT TO THINK WITH  
SOBER  
JUDGMENT...”  
- ROM. 12:3, ESV**



**IN SELF-EVALUATION, DO NOT  
TRUST WHAT YOU SEE**

**“AMBITION AND SELF-  
ASSESSMENT ARE  
INEXTRICABLY LINKED. THE  
SELFISHLY AMBITIOUS ARE  
TERRIBLE AT SELF-  
ARITHMETIC. WHEN THEY  
‘COUNT THEMSELVES,’ IT’S  
ALWAYS MORE THAN ALMOST  
EVERYBODY ELSE.”**

**- DAVE HARVEY**

# PARADOX 5

True Humility  
produces Godly  
Ambition

“...TO PURIFY  
FOR HIMSELF A  
PEOPLE FOR HIS  
OWN  
POSSESSION  
WHO ARE  
ZEALOUS FOR  
GOOD WORKS.”  
- TITUS 2:14, ESV



## TRUE HUMILITY PRODUCES GODLY AMBITION



**“AMBITIONS FOR SELF  
MAY BE QUITE  
MODEST...AMBITIONS  
FOR GOD, HOWEVER, IF  
THEY ARE TO BE WORTHY,  
CAN NEVER BE MODEST.”**



**- G. K. CHESTERTON**

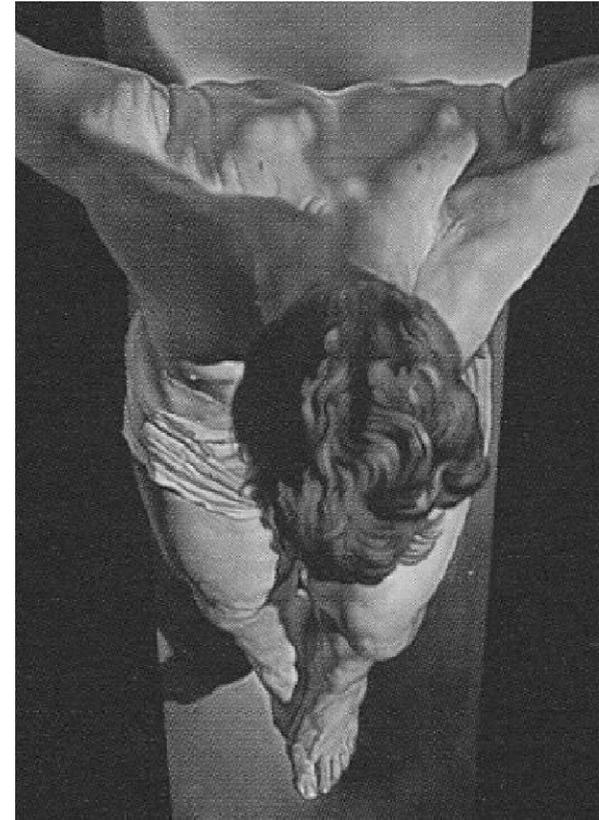


**LORD,**

**IT IS MY CHIEF DESIGN TO  
BRING MY HEART BACK TO  
YOU.**

**CONVINCE ME THAT I  
CANNOT BE MY OWN GOD,  
OR MAKE MYSELF HAPPY,  
NOR MY OWN CHRIST TO  
RESTORE MY JOY, NOR MY  
OWN SPIRIT TO TEACH,  
GUIDE, RULE ME.**

**PURITAN PRAYER  
17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

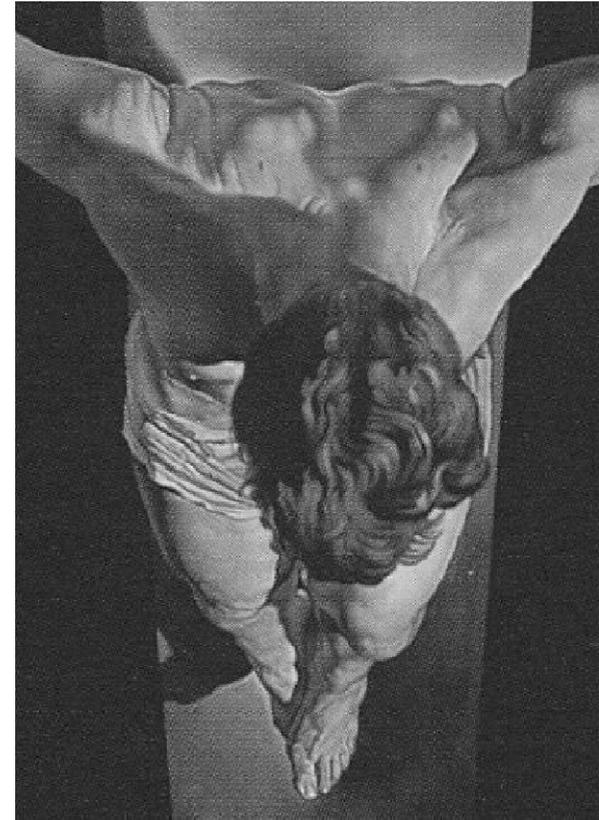


**TAKE AWAY MY ROVING EYE,  
CURIOUS EAR, GREEDY  
APPETITE, LUSTFUL HEART.**

**SHOW ME THAT NONE OF  
THESE THINGS CAN HEAL A  
WOUNDED CONSCIENCE,  
OR SUPPORT A TOTTERING  
FRAME, OR UPHOLD A  
DEPARTING SPIRIT.**

**THEN TAKE ME TO THE  
CROSS AND LEAVE ME  
THERE.**

## **PURITAN PRAYER 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**



**“NOT TO US, O LORD, NOT TO US, BUT TO  
YOUR NAME GIVE GLORY.” (PSALM 115:1)**

