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GRACE**

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**Glorify  
Me with the Glory  
which  
I had Before the World  
Existed.**

**(John 17:5-8)**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

# **Glorify Me with the Glory**

## **Which I had Before the World Existed.**

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- **John 17:5-8:** And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. <sup>6</sup> “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup> For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

Jesus asks God to:

- Glorify him with the glory he had with Him before the world existed (v5) and in verse twenty-four he says, “The Father loved him before the foundation of the world.” (v24).

These two verses are sometimes mistakenly used to support the theory that Jesus pre-existed with the Father before creation but the words, “Glorify him with the glory he had with the Father before the world existed” and “the Father loved him before the foundation of the world” means that Jesus had glory with God and was loved by God before the world existed in the following sense, God planned and purposed from the beginning, that Jesus would be the centre of His entire plan for salvation, eternal life and the human race.

From the beginning Jesus was the central focus in God’s eternal mind.

Before the world began God planned the future virgin birth of His Son through Mary, Jesus ministry and his death and resurrection into heaven to sit at His right hand and purposed that he would be the Saviour of the Jews, the Gentiles and the entire world and become the perfect and eternal King of kings and Lord of lords to establish Gods glory and His Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth. God foresaw all this and loved Jesus from the time He began to plan and purpose mankind’s eternal salvation.

It is like a woman who knows she is going to have a child; she loves the child before it is even born. A mother planning and purposing to have a baby does not suddenly begin to love the newborn child at birth, rather most expectant mothers go out and buy the unborn child clothing, toys, beds and prams long before her baby is even born.

Her love for the child begins in her mind and heart the moment she plans and purposes to have the baby, it is in this same sense that God loved Jesus and saw his future glory from the foundation of the world. Jesus did not pre-exist with God as some spirit being with a mind and consciousness (as many believe) and then become a foetus in Mary's womb to be born into the world; rather Jesus was in the plans and purposes of God and in his heart and mind from the beginning. Jesus was the centre of all of God's plans for the entire universe from the beginning to eternity.

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### **THE FOLLOWING VERSES SHOW THAT JESUS WAS IN THE FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GODS ETERNAL MIND BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN.**

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- You (the Jewish religious leaders) delivered up Jesus according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God (Acts 2:23).
- With the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot he was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake (1 Peter 1:19-20).

- Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began (2 Timothy 1:9).

Jesus was not only foreknown in God's eternal mind before the foundations of the world, but was the central focus for everything God planned and purposed for mankind's salvation, for the world, for the universe and for eternity. The glory Jesus had from the beginning was in the future plans and purposes of God. Jesus was in the mind and heart of God from the beginning and it is in this sense that Jesus says, "God loved him and glorified him from the beginning" (v24). Even the prophets spoke of the coming of Christ and his future glory, faithful Israel set their love on their coming Messiah and knew of his glory long before he even came.

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### **A PERSON DOES NOT HAVE TO EXIST TO BE LOVED IN THE HEART AND MIND**

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Even before a baby exists in this world the parents love the child in their heart and mind. From the moment they begin to plan and purpose to have the baby their love is already set upon the child, added to this, parents continue to love their children even when they cease to exist. Likewise, Jesus did not have to physically exist for God's eternal heart and timeless mind to love him, "Before the foundation of the world" (v24). This is especially true since God foreknows the future, He saw the obedience and faithfulness of Jesus even before he went to the cross and the glorious eternal family that would be established in Him because of Christ's faithfulness.

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### **SUMMARY**

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Jesus words, "And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed" (John 17:5) could read, "And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your eternal and timeless mind and your eternal foreordained plan that you purposed for me before the world existed. Christ was not pre-existent as a person with God, but he was pre-existent in the sense that he was in the foreknowledge of God's eternal plan and purpose. Jesus knew all the prophecies about himself in the Scriptures, (he was the word made flesh) with this knowledge he was able to say, "Glorify me Father according to your foreordained plan and purpose for me that was with you in the beginning."