Title: Consumed in Christ Jesus' Light and Glory

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 7/2/23

I proclaimed during worship one of the words I was going to share *regarding* constantly *meditating on* scripture that gives glory to God and teaching the saints how to honor Him and praise Him for everything. It needs to be a part of our daily life, and not just done at Church on Sundays.

I Timothy 1:12-17

This is the apostle Paul writing to Timothy. Amen. Wow, what praise fills these words. A man simply born in sin, acting in ignorance, and persecuting the Way, the Truth, the Life, Jesus, and His Church. The mercy and the Light of God revealed Himself to Saul in the name of Jesus Christ. Who took him over, set him apart, anointed him, baptized him in the Holy Ghost and fire, and sent him out to save a lot of people. He preached this glorious Gospel, and raised up a Church to equip those saints to do that work. He gives God glory over and over for the grace that came to him, exceedingly and abundantly, and for the faith and love that came to him through Jesus.

Knowing he was the chief of sinners, God had a plan and a purpose for him as He does all of us. Paul obtained mercy and came in power, so that he could show himself strong through Jesus. He came with long suffering. He came to let all of us inherit everlasting life. He closes with, "Now to the King eternal." Jesus is King eternal, seated on His throne in glory. "Immortal, invisible, to a God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

Again, these verses, exalt God. I want us to be a people that exalt God. That it is our daily bread to give Him thanks. It is our daily lifestyle to exalt Him for who He is. He is worthy of this. He is good, not just in the bad times. He is good all the time. It has become kind of a religious cliche. "Well, God is good all the time," but God is good. That is who He is. God is love. I exhort you to see these testimonies throughout the word, and take them to heart. Know that we are no different.

What is your praise? What is your song? What do you tell God? You know where you were born. We were all born in sin, but what have you come through. How has He saved you, healed you, and protected you? What miracles has He worked in your life? Look at how He has blessed you. Yes, look at the life that we have in Christ Jesus. The sufferings and persecutions we go through. The stand we have to take for righteousness sake. It is all for Him to be glorified. God is with us in it. Right? We go through it. So please hear, thank Him, Sunday after Sunday, day after day, in the morning, and when you lie down to sleep, thank Him. Thank Him. He rests where there is thanksgiving. He abides where there is honor. He abides and rests where there is glory given to His name.

He rejects pride. He will not dwell with pride or the fear of man, but He comes to humble hearts who are open. We know who we are. We know we are returning to Him, and we have to let it be our lifestyle and speak it out loud. The devil cannot read your mind. Hallelujah. God wants us to speak it out loud and praise Him out loud. That is why we shout, we decree, and we sing. We read the word out loud. Get it out there in the atmosphere, and speak it out loud. It will shift everything around you. Yes. We get to do this for all eternity, so you might as well start practicing now. Amen. You all hear that?

I have entitled this message as being "Consumed with Christ." I have been seeing this tidal wave, bigger than your normal ocean wave. This tidal wave can be seen as one of two things. A tidal wave of evil, or a tidal wave of the glory of God. Where we are today, there is this unvoiced expectancy, that any minute something is going to take us over that is dark and looming. It's a place you have never walked or seen before. You say, "Come on, break through with it already."

It is like this wave you see that is circling over and looming against your mind, your life, and your walk with God. But, I want you to shift the way you are thinking to, what are you looking at? What is our focus? I have told you over and over, that our focus is the glory of God. Even though darkness covers the Earth, and deep darkness covers the people, God's glory shall arise upon you. I have felt this in the spirit for quite a while. So, what are you seeing? What do you perceive? What are you expecting? What are you anticipating? Where is your heart? If it is fixed on gloom and doom, all the if's, what if's, and something is going to overtake us, that is not putting your head in the sand saying that things aren't going to be shaken.

But, we have to focus on the greater matter, and to be amazed and overtaken by the glory of God. Seeing God in it, with it, and through it. *All in* His light, His glory, and His power. Shifting the way you are thinking. Girding yourself in the Word of God. Strengthening yourself to say, "I am not just waiting for that evil to come." But, "I am going to see the glory of God." Hear me, it is a tidal wave of glory. What are you believing in? The tidal wave of glory starts in your own soul. The tidal wave of glory starts in you, "Christ in you the hope of glory." The tidal wave of glory starts in you and in me. That is where Christ lives. Yes, "Christ in me, the hope of glory." That is what we are stewarding. We are stewarding His presence. We are stewarding the glory of God. We are stewarding the Kingdom of Heaven. God walks with us, talks with us, and He has anointed us. He has appointed us. He has called us and chosen us for such a time as this.

We have been honoring the Spirit of Holiness and how He is moving. Deep darkness will continue to manifest, and it is coming to light. We sang this morning, that it will be exposed. Amen. It will blatantly oppose the Kingdom of Light and the Lord's followers. We know that, but God's light is always greater. Significant shakings are here and they are coming. They will increase as God exposes the darkness with His light, His righteousness and His justice.

Remember, He is shaking everything that is not in Him, of Him, with Him, or for Him. But, "in Christ, you will never be shaken." Correct. We have been talking about this. We know that we are immovable. The Church needs to change the way we see life right now on our watch. So, let's shift the way we believe and think, and choose to be "consumed with Christ." Not just one day a week, or in a class. He is our life, yes! With Christ, who is our life, and when He appears, we will appear with Him in glory. The Scripture says, "the Anointed One, in His glory." We are steady, and we are anchored very deep, strong, and solid in Him. We cannot be moved from Him, in His light. All I see is glory. It shall increase. Look for Him and stay focused.

Job 29:3

Good word, "By His light, we walk through darkness.

Matthew 7:24-25

That Rock is His Word. The Rock is Jesus Christ. He is the Word made manifest. He is the Word of God. Yes, we need to read our Bible. Yes, we need to read the Word of God. Yes, abide in Him and abide in His Word. But, Jesus is the Rock. Jesus is the Word. Jesus is the Light. Jesus is the Way. He lives in us. Yes, He guards us and keeps us. He watches over us. This gives you hope and courage, because you are not alone. Say, "I am not alone." The Rock is Jesus Christ.

I have been hearing and seeing for quite awhile, the Light of the Lord. I have mentioned it more than once. If we see in the spirit realm, then you clearly see those who are of the Light. In the darkness, they see those who are of the Light. In the flesh, you might be able to walk and see those who are in darkness. Correct. But, we are now children of Light, children of the day. We are literally hosting and carrying the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of Heaven is with us every day, 24/7. We are actually "seated with Him in heavenly places." The scripture says, "Christ fills all in all," because of His resurrection. He fills all in all.

The scriptures I am going to list today are a few on Jesus as the Light, and on the Light of God. As our eyes are focused on that Light, He brings light to a matter to give glory to God. When the Light is revealed in you with truth and power, or when He answers your prayers. He provides, He heals, He saves, He restores, He empowers, and He anoints you when you have to confront something, or you have to stand for truth. The Light of God is so great. If we could see the glory of God in the spirit realm, we would see that Light emanating from us. Amen. The words that we speak go out with arrows of light. When you speak God's word, pray God's word, decree God's word, there are literally arrows of light hitting their target. Amen.

John 1:1-5

They were not able to grasp it, and it could not take them over. It is just amazing. "Jesus is the Word of God. He is the Life, and the Light of God is in Him." Yes, but not all receive it. Not everybody can receive it by faith, but no one can overtake the Light of Jesus, no one. You may not grasp it yet, but nothing can stop the Light of God. Yes. It is very biblical. "In the beginning, He is the Word, "I am pointing to Jesus Christ. Everything comes in, with, and through Him. He is the Light," scripture says. So, if I am keeping my focus on the Light, I can expect to be consumed by that Light. When you look at a burning light bulb for awhile, it is really bright and you blink and look away. Then all you see are flashes of bright light. That doesn't work with darkness. But, when you are looking at a really bright light, it takes you a minute to get refocused. That is the focus, Church, on "Jesus's eyes of fire." Yes, they are still blazing for us now, because we are at the center of His heart's intention.

John 3:17-19

We were born that way, right? That is it. That is a condemnation. That is what the Apostle Paul was talking about earlier, until the light blinded him on the road to Damascus and called him to Himself. Correct? Paul was granted mercy, forgiveness, and healing, that launched him into the Kingdom of Heaven. How about that? "This is the condemnation, that the Light has come into the world and men loved darkness rather than light." That is your battleground. That is the condemnation, because "their deeds were evil." If you are in darkness, then you are going to produce the fruit of darkness. If you are in the light, you're going to produce the fruit of light.

John 3:20-21

That is what God is doing. That is what God did in us when we were first called by His name to Himself. We came saying, "Oh my God, I am a sinner. I am lost. I am going to hell. I am separated from God. I am in darkness. Woe be to me." Then the mercy and the grace of God consumed me. A tidal wave of Light came over me. The glory of God consumed me and brought me to the Word made flesh. Took me out of the world of darkness, and brought me into the Light of the world. Took me out of the kingdom of hell, and put me in the Kingdom of Heaven. You hear it?

These are not just words that nobody understands. This is a living, breathing reality. Amen. This is the battle ground. Those that you pray for that are not saved, but are lost and deceived in darkness, they literally hate the light. That's it. Right? But, you see the great deception *they are under* until the Light of God and the Word of God comes to them and stands in front of them. Then immediately something happens to them, just like it happened for you and me.

John 3:21

It says, "One day everything is going to be open and laid bare before Him, with whom we have to do, and nothing is going to be hidden in heaven any more." You get it? There are some judgments and some tribunals. There are some places where decisions have to be made. Are you for light or are you for darkness? Choices have to be made in this life. Thanks be to God that He has forgiven all of our sins. "Oh my God, thank you, Jesus! Yes. He says, "He remembers our sins no more. He removes them as far as the east is from the west. That is why He says daily, "If you sin, repent to the Father and be washed and cleansed." You are in His righteousness. You are born again from above. We need everything under the blood of Jesus. Correct? If it is not under the blood of Jesus, get it there quick. Do not play with darkness.

John 8:12

I want you to note how many times He says, "light and life," as they go together. Yes, darkness does not produce life, only light does. "I am the Light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but I have the Light of life."

John 9:4-5

"I am the Light of the world."

John 12:36

"Become Sons of Light."

John 12:42-46

These are words of Jesus and I have just pulled a few. The gospels are loaded with these passages. He didn't say, "Hi, I am of the darkness." He said, "I am the Son of God," right? "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. I am the Light of the world." His whole heart is to gather a family to Himself and into the light to be sons and daughters of Light who carry that glory and that Kingdom. If He is light, and wherever He goes, He brings the Kingdom, then we are Light and wherever we go, we bring the Kingdom. I am pretty sure Light always overtakes darkness.

<u>I John 1:5-7</u>

"This is the message that we have heard from Him," meaning Jesus, "and declare to you," Church, "that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and we are not practicing the truth. But, if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sins." Amen.

I Thessalonians 5:5

We are sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of the darkness. Beloved, we host the glory of God, the goodness of God, the Word of God, the light of God, the life of God, and the truth of God. Every day, in our sphere, in our families, and wherever we are, the light is greater. That tidal wave of the glory of God is in you, over you, with you, and through you wherever you go.

You don't know what you stir up when you walk in the room. Right? You don't know what kind of presence of comfort or healing you may bring when you walk into a room. You don't know what kind of conviction you can feel when you walk to your neighbor's house. You don't know what is going on in the spirit realm. Because, you see, God's always working. He knows. He sees it all. He sees it all. You are sons of light and sons of the day. I have no fear of the darkness. I have no fear of evil. Amen, in Jesus name, we are building up our faith.

Darkness is creepy and eerie and grows, so we hate it. Right, sin is sin. Evil is evil. But, the Light of God is greater. You think, "well I know that." But, what kind of fear do you walk in? What kind of worry or anxious thoughts do you battle daily? What stronghold? What thoughts are trying to take you captive? That is when you know you are really in a wrestling match. This is why we read the word, and we put it in us. We decree it, we pray it, we set ourselves to it, and it overcomes darkness. Amen. That is our instruction through the Scripture. It is all great.

Il Corinthians 4:3-6

There it is. Everyone say, "tsunami of glory." One look, one glance of His eyes. The glory of God captured our souls, our hearts, and our spirit man came up front and center to be born again. You didn't just see the movie and what it looked like. Maybe some of you did, as Saul certainly did. Yes, but that's what happens. So, how much more in this life as we live, and move, and have our being in Him? What kind of glory and light and expectation of a kingdom coming? We don't have time for doubt. We don't have time for unbelief. I *must* be fixed on faith and His Word alone. Amen. The Light of God has never diminished. You can't turn Him off. The Light of God has never diminished. It will never grow dim. Ever, ever, ever, ever. Amen. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. This great Light is in us.

Proverbs 18:10

Very simple. It says, "the name of the Lord is a strong tower the righteous run to it and are safe." There are a lot of other towers that want the dominion over your life. There are a lot of other strongholds, evil voices, and schemes of darkness, that want the dominion over your life. But, "The name of the Lord is the strong tower," the highest place, the highest name, the true God, the Light of the world. God Almighty, Himself, He is our strong tower. He is our dominion. He is the glory. He is the power. You see that He is heaven. He is the King eternal and He has dominion over your life, especially if you yield to Him. Shift the way you are thinking. Nothing will overtake you.

I am quoting different redemptive names and natures of God. It has been said that these are called a "Biblical Bill of Rights." You can take a hold of the many names of God. We have talked about them here. We have sung about them. We teach about them in our classes. But, knowing, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower," listen to this.

Jehovah Jireh, the Lord will provide.

Jehovah Rapha, the Lord our healer.

Jehovah Nissi, the Lord our banner.

Jehovah M'Kaddish, the Lord who sanctifies and makes holy.

Jehovah Shalom, the Lord our peace.

Jehovah Sabaoth, the Lord of hosts of angel armies.

Jehovah Rafi, the Lord our shepherd.

Jehovah Rohi, the Lord our shepherd.

Jehovah Tsidkenu, the Lord our righteousness.

Jehovah El Elyon, the Lord Most High.

Jehovah Makkah, the Lord who smites.

Jehovah Gmolah, the Lord who recompenses or pays back.

Jehovah Shammah, the Lord is ever present.

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run to it and are safe." Knowing who your God is. Knowing and believing who He is, and to be amazed and undone, overwhelmed, overtaken, completely blasted by the glory of God. The name of God, and who He is. Make it so in your soul. Make it so in your heart. Settle it now. Tell any other strong tower over you be crushed and be pulled down in Jesus name. Take these names and exalt Him above that.

Know that we are a walking, breathing, beautiful, anointed Bride of Christ, clothed in His glory and His anointing to go around doing good. He has some wisdom laid up for this hour. We are supposed to be walking in it, right? One side is wisdom and the other side is revelation. One side is knowledge and the other side is the fear of the Lord. One side is counsel and the other side is might. The Spirit of the Lord is upon you, Church. So, don't just hold on and barely make it. Come on. Rise up. Take your seat in glory with Him in heavenly places. Let's decree a thing and proclaim who He is. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower. You will never be shaken." Amen. All right.

Let's stand up and receive His encouragement this morning. I pray you be blessed with it and your eyes will change. Don't gaze into the darkness, beloved. Gaze into heaven. Gaze into the One that lives inside of you. Amen.

Father, we receive your exhortation in your word. We honor your word, Jesus. We honor who you are, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. You are the Light. Thank you that you have plucked us out of hell and darkness, and transported us into the Kingdom of Heaven and Light. Made us ambassadors of Light, warriors of Light, sons and daughters of Light and of the day. Full of life, hope, peace, healing, power, and glory. Something greater is here! We thank you that "the name of the Lord is a strong tower." That we are hidden in God, in Christ, and in you for all eternity. Sealed with the great Holy Ghost. Born for such a time as this. Planted and deeply rooted and abiding in your Word. We shall not be shaken. Use us God. Teach us how to pray effectively, Lord, from the high place and from the high tower in your name. Teach us how to pray from Heaven downward, and the Earth shall respond. The Earth is responding.

Father, we agree with you and your heart for sons of darkness to be saved. We agree that Jesus came to save the lost just as He saved us. We will be humble about this and believe for you to pluck up and snatch them out of the fire. That many would come to the Light and to the glory of God. That even as the apostle Paul wrote, "I know I was the chief of sinners, but His mercy and His grace came upon me." May you take every one of us children of Light and use us to increase and multiply and take your Kingdom and Dominion wherever we go, 24/7. May you fill our mouths with your words. That we will pray it, decree it, prophesy it, and shout it from the highest Heavens. That we would only see the Eyes of Fire. We would only see the glory of God. That you will be glorified, and the nations will know that you are the Lord. We thank you for saving us, protecting us, healing us, encouraging us, and strengthening us. We thank you for all of your blessings, Lord, and we love you. We love you, in Jesus' mighty name, amen. Be blessed.