



The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

Psalms 19:1

To God be the Glory!

A sunset over a mountain range with a bright orange and yellow sky and dark silhouettes of the mountains.

Introduction

Victoria Osteen:

“So, I want you to know this morning: Just do good for your own self. Do good because God wants you to be happy. When you come to church, when you worship Him, you’re not doing it for God really. You’re doing it for yourself, because that’s what makes God happy. Amen?”

Why is the man-centered focus of religion such a problem?



The Problem

- Christianity and churches are being molded to fit the current needs/desires of our culture
 - Traditional Christianity is said to be irrelevant
 - We are seeing the product of the no-pattern doctrine of the past 100+ years
- Why is this a problem?
 - When you change Christ's revealed pattern and build what people want, it stops being Christ's church
 - Christ said he would build HIS church – Matt. 16:18; 2 Tim. 3:14-15; Eph. 3:10-11

The purpose of all things is to glorify God



This is not an Ego Trip

- God is the God of glory – Rev. 4:6-11; 5:9-14
- His glory is rightfully due Him – Psa. 29:1-2
 - His **power** is glorious – Col. 1:10-11
 - His **holiness** is glorious – Ex. 15:11
 - His **works** are glorious – Psa. 111:2-4

If we understand things as we should...

- We understand **creation** to be for God's glory – Psa. 19:1-3
- We understand God's **labors** are for His glory – Acts 17:26-27; Heb. 11:6
- We understand man's **redemption** is for God's glory – Eph. 1:11-12; 1 Pet. 2:9; Matt. 5:16
- We understand a **faithful life** is for God's glory – Phil. 1:9-11; 1 Cor. 6:18-20; 1 Pet. 4:10-11, 14; 1 Cor. 10:31

Conclusion

- All glory belongs to God and He is not willing to give that glory to another – Isa. 42:8
- We need to come to a clear understanding of our position in God's plan
 - We are not in charge—we are not the center
 - We depend on God's grace and mercy to make known to us how to acceptably serve.
- We call on all to turn from religion centered in man's wisdom and desires and seek out God, His will, and His glory!
- Are you willing to humbly submit yourself to God in faith, repentance, confession, and baptism to receive salvation, an enduring hope of heaven, and live to glorify God?