

To God Be The Glory

Romans 16:27

We began Romans when I was a young man. We conclude Romans by examining a verse that sums up all that Paul has been saying throughout this great letter. This verse actually begins in vs. 25: “*Now to him that is of power to establish you . . . (to God) only wise be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.* (v.28). The word “glory” in this text is the Greek (doxa) and means “to think highly” or “give praise in one’s thoughts.” A doxology is “speaking praise.” The chief end of man is to glorify and praise God.

I. Why should we direct our praise to God? . . . “To God *only wise be glory.*”

The NIV uses the phrase “to the only wise God” but it is better translated “to God who alone is wise.” God deserves our praise because only He is wise.

(A). He is wise in His justice . . . “*they (the ungodly) are without excuse*” (1:20).

Creation and conscience are enough to condemn a man. God has revealed Himself through both, but man has “suppressed” the truth of God.

(B). He is wise in the cross . . . “*To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness; that he might be just and the justifier of him which believes in Jesus*” (3:26).

Who would have ever dreamed that God Himself would become sin for us?

(C). He is wise in His grace. . . “*He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him freely give us all things?*” (8:32).

Everything you need for life is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

(D). He is wise in all His purposes . . . whether it be in the display of His wrath (9:22), the problems you face in life (8:28), or establishment or pulling down of governments (13:2), all things in life fall under God’s purposes.

II. How do we declare our praise to God? . . . “*Through Jesus Christ . . .*”

There is no praise of the one true God apart from the worship of Jesus Christ.

I know this is a touchy subject, but it is essential to understand. The only avenue through which a person can both know God and praise God is Jesus.

(Read John 8:19-24). One of the most critical verses in the Bible is v. 24:

“*ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I AM (he), ye shall die . . .*”

This man through whom we worship the living God was born over 2000 years ago.

III. When do we desist from our praise to God? . . . “*to God be glory . . . forever.*”

We never cease giving praise to God. All of eternity will be spent glorifying Him.

“*He hath raised us up . . . that in the ages to come he might show us the exceeding riches of his grace, in his kindness toward us, through Christ Jesus*” (Eph. 2:6-7).

“*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*” (Eph. 3:21).

“*We should always be wearing the garment of praise, not just waving a palm branch now and then*” **Bonar.**