

# The Beauty/Glory of God.23

(Glory/Beauty of the Eternal Logos in John 1)

## John 1 : 14

And the Word was made flesh,  
and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten  
of the Father full of grace and truth.

<http://www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html>

Crossway  
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# Philosophical/Theological/Doctrinal/Spiritual Mental Framework

## Bible Doctrines (The True-Good-Beautiful!)

Eschatology  
 Thanatology  
 Ecclesiology  
 Israelology  
 Dispensationalism  
 Doxology  
 Hodology  
 Soteriology  
 Hamartiology  
 Natural Law  
 Anthropology  
 Angelology  
 Pneumatology  
 Christology  
 Paterology  
 Trinitarianism  
 Cosmology  
 Theology Proper  
 Bibliology

**P.R. - 32**

Hermeneutics

Linguistics

Epistemology

Metaphysics -11  
 (Trans. 28)

Reality –Logic 32,  
 Truth 32

The divine mandate is for every believer to be a pillar (**στυλος**) and support (**ἑδραίωμα**) of the Truth (1 Tim. 3:15).

- It is universally recognized by Christian philosophers and theologians that the church in North America is an abject failure in whole truth. How can it communicate what it does not even know, i.e., Truth as such?
- Most of Christianity has been degraded into a personal psychological religion. It is “all about personal truths” not truth as such.” That is why the church is totally ill-equipped to face a skeptical and hostile world.
- The good news is that we do not have to be brainwashed by the modern mindset.
- We actually have a plan not only to learn whole truth, total truth, but a plan to stay balanced in the CWL. Apart from a plan how would any pastor or believer grow in whole truth, which is the single greatest challenge for any believer? This plan keeps me honest and objective in advancing the congregation in whole truth.

Stage  
3

Stage  
2

Stage  
1

### Stage 3 – Christian metaphysician = life of glory!

- The believer who becomes a Christian metaphysician has a totally new mindset with regard to the nature of ‘Ehyeh/Esse and the transcendentals.
- Only in metaphysics can a believer really understand Bible, the attributes and glory of God

Holy Spirit  Bible Doctrine

### Stage 2 – Christian doctrinal believer = life of doctrine!

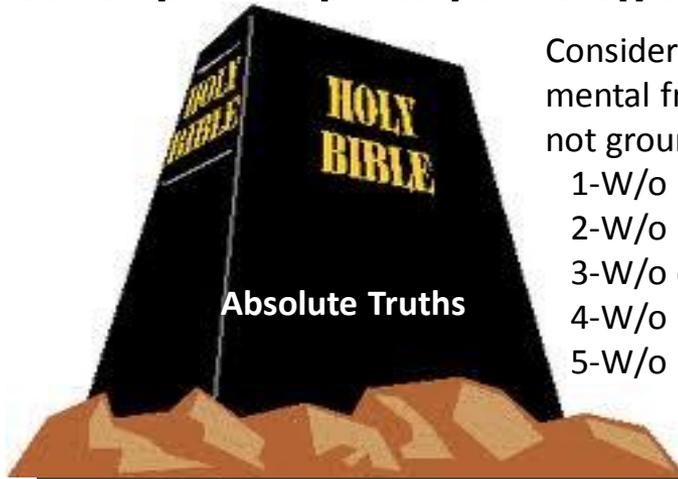
- Through BD, this believer has gained a great deal of divine viewpoint in his soul regarding God and the spiritual life.
- However, he continues to have some pagan views about God’s *nature* due to lack of metaphysical development.
- He is stable, but still very dependent on others for confidence in metaphysical truths.

Holy Spirit  Bible Doctrine

### Stage 1 – Christian baby = life of ups and downs.

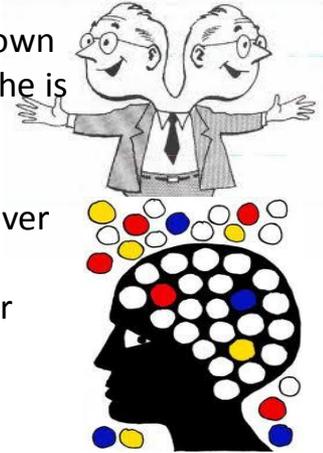
- All baby believers have a great deal of pagan views of God due to the problem of pagan horizon of meaning.
- All baby believers are tossed here and there by the kosmos, Eph 4:14.
- For baby believers it is all about pragmatism or personal encounter with truth. If it works or feels good, they think it must be true.

# The need for philosophical/theological foundation of total truth, whole truth



Consider the mess a Bible-believer will make of his own mental framework, the Bible, and his spiritual life if he is not grounded and growing in whole truth:

- 1-W/o reality/logic = irrational Bible-believer
- 2-W/o metaphysics = Deistic or Marxist Bible-believer
- 3-W/o epistemology = Fideistic Bible-believer
- 4-W/o linguistics = Deconstructionist Bible-believer
- 5-W/o hermeneutics = Devotional Bible-believer



**5- Hermeneutics – how do we understand that which is?**

**4- Linguistics – how is that which is communicated?**

**3- Epistemology –how do I know that which is?**

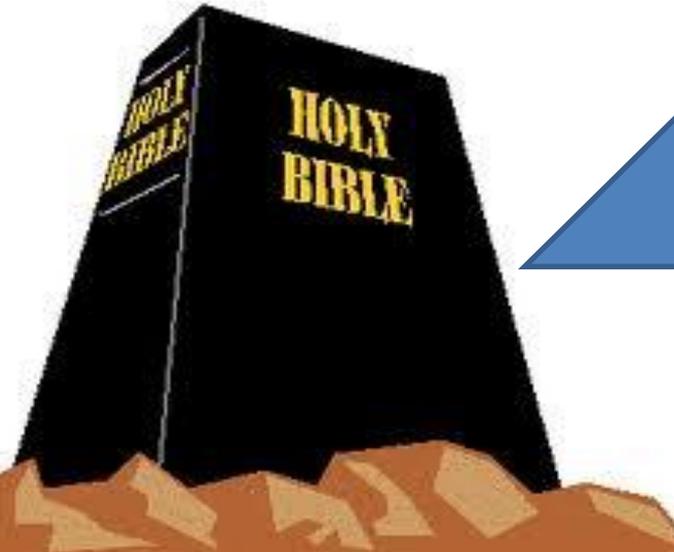
**2- Metaphysics – what is that which is? Being as being.  
(11-Transcendentals.26)**

**1- Reality – that which is (Logic 32, Truth 32)**

PR 32

# Foundations: Metaphysics-11

How metaphysics have changed my life and what I missed in the last 15 years of verse-by-verse exegetical and topical studies (don't worry I am not going to whine;-): Fellowship (1995-2000), Divine Guidance (1999-2000), Philippians (1996-1997), 1 Peter (1998-2001), Nehemiah (2001-2002), Malachi (2001-2002), Ephesians (2001-2003), Zechariah (2002), Daniel (2003), Jude (2003), 3<sup>rd</sup> John (2003), Romans 1:1-3:24 (2003-2005), PSDs (2008), Satanology (2008-2009).



'Ehyeh asher 'Ehyeh  
Metaphysics

אֶהְיֶה

'Ehyeh

## 11—The Transcendentals.28

- 8-10 Being-Becoming
- 7-Satan's attack on metaphysics
- 6-Integration of 4 causes
- 5-Act of existence = "to be"
- 4-Act and Potency/potential
- 3- Four causes
- 2-Being *qua* being
- 1-Introduction

Science of Metaphysics 11

# 4 Eras of Metaphysics –what is the nature of your mental framework?

Ultimate reality  
of Being and beings

‘Ehyeh metaphysics: Exod. 3:14; John 1:3; Psalm 19:1-3; Rom. 1:18-32; Acts 17:28; Col. 1:17; Rev. 4:11

**The Ancient Period (624 B.C. - A.D. 270):** Thales, Anaximander, Anaximenes, Pythagoras, Xenophanes, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Anaxagoras, Empedocles, Zeno the Eleatic, Protagoras, Gorgias, Socrates, Democritus, Leucippus, Epicurus, Plato, Aristotle, Pyrrho, Epicurus, Zeno the Stoic, Epictetus. Plato and Aristotle were the most compelling metaphysical critics of materialism and reductionism in the Greek world (i.e., “nothing buttery” philosophy).

**The Classical Christian-’Ehyeh period (30-1349):** Apostles (especially John and Paul), Plotinus, Church Fathers, Augustine (on the nature of evil and creation), Boethius, John Scotus Erigena, Avicenna, Anselm, Al-Ghazali, Peter Abelard, Averroes, Maimonides, Bonaventure, Thomas Aquinas, Eckhart, John Duns Scotus, William of Ockham.

**The Modern Period (1466-1900):** Erasmus, Copernicus, Luther, Bacon, Galileo, Hobbes, Descartes, Pascal, Spinoza, John Locke (1632-1704), Newton, Leibniz, Berkeley, Voltaire, Rousseau, David Hume (1711-1776), Kant, Schelling, Fichte, Hegel, Marx, Bentham, Comte, Mill, Darwin, Kierkegaard, Marx, Engels, Dostoevsky, Nietzsche.

**The Contemporary Period (1900-):** Charles S. Peirce, James, Freud, Husserl, Bergson, Dewey, Whitehead, Russell, Einstein, Wittgenstein, Martin Heidegger (1889-1976), Carnap, Ryle, Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980), Beauvoir, Quine, Ayer, Austin, Kuhn, Foucault, Derrida, Richard Rorty.

Monism, Pluralism  
Atomism, Humanism,  
Pantheism, Platonism  
Aristotelianism  
Essentialism  
Rationalism  
Radical Empiricism  
Thomism, Nominalism  
Humanism, Scientism  
Agnosticism, Skepticism  
Secularism, Deism  
Idealism, Romanticism  
Marxism, Anti-  
intellectualism  
Evolutionism, Atheism  
Existentialism, Pragmatism,  
Hedonism, Positivism  
Post-modernism,  
Relativism, Functionalism,  
Coherentism  
Phenomenology  
Existentialism,  
Psychologism, Nihilism,

**Classical Christian/’Ehyeh metaphysics on nature (30–1349).** This view of creation and nature during the first 1300 years is unique and fits perfectly with Romans 1:20 and Psalm 19. Creation and nature were praised as they manifested the continuation of God’s handiwork. Only on the ‘Ehyeh paradigm can creation actually glorify God. Yes, that means that birds, flowers, sun, moon, and even creepy crawling things glorify God. This mindset is far different from modern deistic Christian mindset; it is actually biblical (Job 37–38; Psalm 148; John 1:3; Rev. 4:11). This is a whole new way of thinking: one that matches Reality and the Bible. There is no other metaphysical system that works.

**Contemporary naturalistic metaphysics on Nature from 1912–1940 in America.** Darwinism/naturalism saturates everything in our society. Our present focus is on the eugenic movement which viewed all of Nature in terms of evolution. The net effect is to reduce man to DNA and environment. All attempts to help the disabled were viewed as sins against Nature. James Wilson, President Theodore’s Roosevelt’s Secretary of Agriculture, praised efforts of those like the American Breeders Association (later renamed the American Genetic Association) for *“assembling the genetic data of thousands of families for making records of the very souls of our people, of the very life essence of our racial blood.”* Former Governor of Illinois, Frank Lowden, noted that in the state of nature defective individuals would have long disappeared from the face of the earth and that man’s interference with natural laws saves them from perishing. It was widely accepted that man is causing great evil by saving the weak and imperfect. Consider the history of Henry Goddard, Deborah Kallikak and Nazism. Consider the rest of the title on *Origin of the Species*. Consider Darwin’s *Descent of Man*. What is the difference between Darwinism and Christianity on race?

# **The Transcendentals-28**

## **(The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)**

1. Apart from developing metaphysical abilities (which the Bible presumes for every normal person), the modern believer will be very limited in his ability to understand God, His beauty/glory, creation, man, the spiritual life, love, and countless wonderful and important truths that fill our Bibles. Apart from biblical metaphysics, we are only left with shallow spiritual life and at best merely the definitions of crucial doctrines.

# The Transcendentals-28

## (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

2. Metaphysical realism is the biblical position regarding aesthetics. This is in contrast to nominalism which teaches things do not have essences; there are only names we use for things (cf., William of Ockham, Martin Luther). In nominalism they are just what we call them: they have no real universal existence. This has serious ramifications as far as *entities* like human nature, law, marriage, music, poetry, and paintings.

# The Transcendentals-28

## (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

3. Again, nominalism teaches that aesthetics exist only in name, not in being. Nominalism curses everything it touches. Realism, on the other hand, teaches that beauty has a real existence—in experience.

# The Transcendentals-28

## (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

4. There are different modes of existence. The mode of existence of aesthetics is in the mind. This does not mean that it is only in the mind or that there is no basis in reality for it.

## The Transcendentals-28

### (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

5. While in metaphysics all beings are true, good, and beautiful because they are beings, aesthetic works of man are designed for pure beauty, that is, to give pleasure. The emphasis of all aesthetic existence is beauty which is an aspect of pleasure, cf. poems, music, paintings.

# The Transcendentals-28

## (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

6. What is beautiful and good in a thing are identical fundamentally, for they are based on the same thing, namely the form; and this is why good is praised as beautiful. But they differ in the mind:
  - a. Good is related to appetite or desire and therefore has the nature of an end—a movement towards a thing. Desire rests in what is good.
  - b. Beauty relates to cognitive power. We do not speak of something that tastes or smells beautifully. Things are said to be beautiful which please when seen. Beauty consists in due proportion, which the intellect delights in. The intellect finds rest in beauty.

## The Transcendentals-28

### (The Existence of Beauty in Aesthetics)

7. Successfully achieved works of art are not beautiful because they please our “eyes”; they please our eyes because they are beautiful.
8. The primary function of art is to provide man with objects nature does not fully furnish, to bring out more beauty that nature exhibits on a natural level.
9. Music is but a combination of sounds that can be expressed in terms of numerical proportions which are pleasant or beautiful to hear.
10. Just as the universe bears witness to the existence and power of its Creator; a work of art likewise points to a human master as he imitates the Creator.

# The Beauty of God.23

## John 1 : 14

And the Word was made flesh,  
and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten  
of the Father full of grace and truth.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

The glory road. **Introduction of glory in creation, Christ, and God:** Genesis 1-2; 3:6; 6:2; 12:11; Exod. 2:2; 25:8, 22; 29:43-46; 33:18-22; 40:34-38; Rev. 21:1-22:5; Psa. 19:1-2; Isa 5:20-21; 6:1-8; 42:18-20; Jer. 7:24-26; 13:13-14; Gal. 3:1-5; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; ; Matt. 5:8; 11:25-30; Rom. 1:18-32; Heb. 1:1-3; Philip. 2:5-11; 1 John 1:1-4; Prov. 6; 1 Peter. 3:1-5.

**Effulgence of God's beauty/glory manifested in the incarnation: John 1;**

2:11, 16; 3:13, 16-17; 4:6, 10, 14-18, 31-34; 5:17-27, 30, 36-37, 44; 6:33-48; 7:18, 28-30, 37-38; 8:12-14, 28, 31-42, 50, 58-59; 10:7-11, 14-18, 28-30, 38, 12:27-28, 32-50; 13:1-34; 14:6-31; 15:1-6, 8-19, 24-26; 16:7-15; 17:6, 24; 19:23-30; 20:28-31; 21:19.

**Old Testament Glory:** Job 38-42; creation, Garden, Abel, Abraham, Moses, David, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel and the throne of Glory, lost glory (Psa 27:4; 32:1-11; 34:8; 145:8-17; Prov. 4:5-9; 2 Chron. 26; Isa. 3:18 48:4; 64:6; 53; Jer 6:22-23; 15:12-14; 27:36).

**New Testament Glory:** Luke 1-2; 4:6-13; 21:5; Acts 3:2; 17:26-27; 20:28; Rom 3:9-19, 21-26; 5:1-2, 6-11; 10:15; 1 Cor 1:18, 23-31; 2:8-9; 2 Cor 3:6-4:6; 8:9; Gal 3:13-14; 4:4-5; Eph. 1:6; 2:10; 5:25-32; Col. 2:9, 13-14; 3:10-14; 3:13-14; 4:4-8; Titus 3:4-6; 1 Pet. 1:8; 2:21-25; 2 Pet. 3:16; Heb 2:11-18; 5:5; James 1:11, 17; 1 John; 2:1-2; 3:2-3, 16; 4:9-10, 20; Rev. 5:9-14; 12:3, 7, 9.

**Conclusion: the beatific vision:** Rev. 21:1-22:5.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

## John 1:1-3

- John 1:1-3 gives us the source of all beings which are all made up of matter, energy, and λόγος-information. All the matter, energy, and information of all beings must find its source in Supreme Being. It took 1900 years for science to catch up with the Bible on the nature of creation.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:1-3

- All beings (animate and inanimate) have λόγος-information. Consider the information and its *telos* [direction] in a caterpillar as it goes from chrysalis to butterfly, from destroying cells of old organs while it saves and develops new cells for new organs like long feet, a new gut, new eyes, wings, long proboscis, navigation system for 2,000 mile journey, new sex organs, and a transcendent beauty and aesthetics that is way above survival.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:1-3

- Consider the words of the famous theoretical physicist John Wheeler (responsible for reviving interest in general relativity in the US after WWII, worked with Niels Bohr in explaining principles behind nuclear fission, worked on unified field theory, coined the terms “black hole, quantum foam” and “wormhole” and “it from bit,“ made notable contributions to quantum mechanics and gravitation. He also sought to discover why there was anything at all).

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:1-3

- In 1990, Wheeler suggested that information is fundamental to the physics of the universe. According to this “it from bit” doctrine, all things physical are information-theoretic in origin.

“It from bit. Otherwise put, every ‘it’—every particle, every field of force, even the space-time continuum itself—derives its function, its meaning, its very existence entirely . . . from bits. . . in short that all things physical are information-theoretic in origin and that this is a participatory universe.”

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:1-3

Also he noted in his autobiography

“In the first period, extending from the beginning of my career until the early 1950’s, I was in the grip that **Everything Is Particles**. I was looking for ways to build all basic entities—neutrons, protons, mesons, and so on—out of the lightest, most fundamental particles, electrons, and photons. This same vision of a world of simple particles dominated my work with Feynman.

I call my second period **Everything is Fields**. From the time I fell I love with general relativity and gravitation in 1952 until late in my career, I pursued the vision of a world made of fields, one in which the apparent particles are really manifestations of electric and magnetic fields, gravitational fields, and space-time itself. . . .

Now I am in the grip of a new vision, that **Everything is Information**. The more I have pondered the mystery of quantum and our strange ability to comprehend this world in which we live, the more I see possible fundamental roles for logic and information as the bedrock of physical theory. I am eighty-six as of this writing, but I continue to search.” [He died at 96 in 2008]

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:1-3

- There is now a revolution in physics and in our understanding of the world. Scientists are increasingly discovering that information is the fundamental stuff underlying physical reality—just as we have in John 1:1-3 and ‘Ehyeh metaphysics.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:38-43 – the first four disciples are drawn to the glory/beauty of the Lord.

1. Life is all about your choices (not your genes or environment), choices about the TGB. Our choices are all about what we think is true, good, and beautiful. What you believe to be true will control your life, whether it is true or not. Your “truth” determines your mental environment. Hence, the single most important thing in life is seeking Truth as such. This is not as easy as it sounds. It requires adjustments. But when you get it, it changes everything.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:38-43

2. To seek and follow Truth is to find and grow in Jesus Christ the Ultimate TGB and the abundant life of whole truth, total truth. He provides every believer with the grace option of being transformed into the Christ-form. To be a true seeker one must be an active learner.

Jeremiah 29:13 'And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Prov 8:17 "I [Wisdom] love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.

# The Beauty/Glory of God-23

John 1:38-43

Acts 17:26 and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, 27 that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His offspring.'

John 4:23 "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

3. The promise of Romans 8:28-29 is one of the most beautiful and important promises in the Word of God with respect to God's transformative work in creating in us the Christ-form, the TGB.

Looking at the TGB: 2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

4. Note how logic and metaphysics of 'Ehyeh strengthens Romans 8:28-29.
  - a. Logic demands with apodictic certainty that since God works *all* things for good for those who love Him, then it must be true that even seemingly terrible things like pain, difficulties, heartaches, disappointments, and frustrations, people testing, circumstance testing, providential suffering, et al will work together for good for those who love the Lord. Logic demands that this be true.
  - b. Logic demands that this Good for believers who love God is the Christ-form, cf. verse 29. God's love for us has been demonstrated by His ultimate sacrifice. True love is proved through suffering. Suffering removes the suspicion that the good we do for another is for ulterior motives, with strings attached, a quid pro quo.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

- c. Logic and metaphysics coupled with the Holy Spirit is far stronger than any and all other factors such as feelings, experiences, desires, moods, family, friends, and fellow Christians. The logic is there when the feelings or desires or friends or family or fellow believers are not.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

- d. The logic and metaphysics of Romans 8:28 is far stronger than having many other Bible passages in a leaky, emotional, irrational “bucket,” all the while trying to gin up more faith in an effort to control God and circumstances. Logical propositions
- ✓ God by necessity must exist for anything to exist. He gives everything existence along with their natural causes. Nothing exists—nothing, unless God gives it existence.
  - ✓ God is the Creator of the universe and thus all-powerful.
  - ✓ God is the source of all goodness and thus all-good.
  - ✓ God is the source of all design and order in the universe and thus all-wise.
  - ✓ A God who is all-powerful is in control of everything He created.
  - ✓ A God who is all all-good is only good to everything He created.
  - ✓ A God who is all-wise knows what is ultimately for the best for everyone and everything He created.
  - ✓ To deny that God works all things out for the good of those who love the Lord is to deny either God’s existence, power, goodness, or wisdom.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

5. This promise of Romans 8:28 is only for those who are loving the Lord. This actually becomes a double blessing to such a believer: focus and transformation into the greatest stage of glory and glorifying of God—joy, happiness, and blessedness. Of course, this only interests those who love and admire Jesus Christ more than anything else, cf., Philip 3:1-14. It does not work for those in love with kosmos diabolicus:

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

6. The person who truly loves the Lord is characterized by lack of desire for any personal autonomy apart from the Lord and lives with great appreciation for God (as the TGB) and His gifts of grace. You cannot do this if your mental environment is stamped and shaped by personal autonomy and kosmos diabolicus.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

Philip. 3:1-14.

2 Cor. 12:7-10.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

James 1:17 Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.

Ephesians 5:20 always giving thanks on behalf of (ὐπὲρ) all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

1 Thessalonians 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

John 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

John 14:24 "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

7. Examples of how things do not work out together for good for believers who do not love the Lord. Instead of enjoying the innumerable blessings of God plus the blessedness of being transformed into the Christ-form (TGB), there are increasing losses.
  - a. It is not good to lose out on blessings of the fellowship of walking with the Lord through all of the details of life, 1 John 1:1-4; Gal. 3:1; John 15:4-5; Luke 15:11-24; Psa. 51:12.

Psalm 51:12 Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

- b. It is not good to lose direction, purpose, and capacity for life, Ecc. 1:2-3, 8; Col. 3:1-2; 1 John 2:15-17; Philip. 1:21; James 5:19; Mark 8:34-38; 2 Tim. 4:10; 1 Tim. 6:6-11; 2 Pet 1:9; 3:17; Rev. 2-3.

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

- c. It is not good to lose out on spiritual transformation into the Christ-form, Eph 4:12-16.
- d. It is not good to lose privilege of testimony and ministry to others, Matt. 5:14-16; Philip. 2:13-16.

## The Beauty/Glory of God-23

- e. It is not good to experience loss of faith—shipwreck of the faith, 1 Tim 1:18-20; 6:20-21; 2 Tim. 2:15-18.

1 Timothy 1:18 This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may fight the good fight, 19 keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith. 20 Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have delivered over to Satan, so that they may be taught not to blaspheme.