

Text: Varied

Topics: The Glory of Christ in the Communication of Himself to the Church

Series: Study of John Owen's work - The Glory of Christ - Chapter 10

Faith Community Baptist Church

23 November 2008

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**Statement of Theme:** The glory of Christ which we are to behold by faith consists in the mysterious communication of himself, and all the benefits of his mediation, to the souls of them that do believe (the church), to their present happiness and future eternal blessedness.

**General Observations Regarding Communication between Christ and Men:**

1. This blessing is the life, glory and consolation of the church.  
See Song of Songs 2:16, 6:3, and 7:10
2. This blessing made real to the church through her union with Christ.  
See Owen, Vol 2, p.47 on the Communion the Church has with Jesus
3. This is not the privilege of every man in the world, only of in the church.  
See 1Thes 4:5, 2Thes 1:8

**Divine Communication and the Work of Creation:**

1. God communicates his glory through creation by being essentially antecedent to it and primary over it.  
See Gen 1:1, Isa 43:7, Psalm 150:6, 1Cor 10:31, John 5:26, Acts 17:25b, 28
2. God communicates his glory in that creation is subordinate to him and interdependent upon itself.  
See Psalm 19:1, Rom 1:20, Hos 2:21-22, Acts 14:15-17
3. God's glory is communicated through the creation with it being dependent upon God for sustenance and vitality.  
See Acts 14:15-17, 17:24-29, Psalm 145:16
4. God's glory is communicated being discernable to man by way of apprehension through reason.  
See Rom 1:19-21, Jer 5:21-25
5. Through what has been created God has made manifest the glory of his full triune being.  
See Gen 1:1-3, John 1:1-3, Col 1:16, Heb 1:2, Psalm 104:19-30

**Divine Communication and the Work of Re-Creation:**

1. All new creation graces - originally - infinitely - essentially - are found in God alone.
2. All new creation graces are communicated first to Christ as the church's head.  
See Col 1:17-20, John 5:24-26, 17:2
3. Christ is the fountain of all graces for the church.  
See Col 2:9-10, Eph 4:15-16, 2Pet 1:3 [with this text see 2Peter 1:2, 8, 2:20, 3:18]

4. The manifestation of these graces in Christ's person as Son of God are made known through his offices.

Prophet:	Matt 17:5	====>	Heb 2:1-2a
Priest:	Heb 5:5	====>	Heb 5:6-10
King:	Psalm 2:1-7	====>	Psalm 2:8-12

5. These Divine communications find their roots in the elective purposes of God toward men.  
Eph 1 and Romans 8 and 9

6. Divine communications flow to us from God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (in that order).  
See Eph 1:3-14

7. The Divine communications are granted us by means of the intangible realities of life, light, grace and power, not merely by the external operations of our conversion.

**Order of Operations:**

Life =====> Light =====> Grace =====>Power

8. Divine communications are continual in operation sustaining life and promoting the will of God in the church.  
See Eph 4:14-16