

Chapter One

Enter the Glory Realm

As air is the atmosphere of the earth, glory is the atmosphere of Heaven. It lifts us up above the earthly, into the very presence of God. —Ruth Ward Heflin, Glory: Experiencing the Atmosphere of Heaven

Glory. We have heard statements such as, “He is glorious!” “Lord, bring Your glory.” “What a powerful service; the glory was strong.” I myself have even made these comments. Allow me to pose a question. What does this word actually mean? The Hebrew word for glory is *kabod*. It is splendor, honor, wealth, manifestation of power, glorious presence, reward, glory in the inner person, ruler, men of high rank, one who governs (Strong’s #H3519). As stated in Isaiah 4:5, “Then the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory shall be a covering.” In this context it becomes a covering, which is a defense, canopy, shelter from the elements, and bridal chamber. It also comes as the Shekinah glory, which is the manifest weight and heaviness of the Lord. We must not mention the glory without speaking of the time when the glory fell so strongly in the temple that the priests could not stand nor perform their duties.

The priests then left the Holy Place. All the priests there were consecrated, regardless of rank or assignment; and all the Levites who were musicians were there—Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and their families, dressed in their worship robes; the choir and orchestra assembled on the east side of the Altar and were joined by 120 priests blowing trumpets. The choir and trumpets made one voice of praise and thanks to God—orchestra and choir in perfect harmony singing and playing praise to God:

Yes! God is good!

His loyal love goes on forever!

Then a billowing cloud filled The Temple of God. The priests couldn't even carry out their duties because of the cloud—the glory of God!—that filled The Temple of God (2 Chronicles 5:13-14 MSG).

It is beautiful reality that the Lord has designed for us to encounter. I will always remember the first time I saw an overwhelming presence of the Lord's glory, a glory cloud that literally descended upon and enveloped hundreds of people in a very dramatic way. It was in the early '90s. The church we were attending was on the verge of an all-out revival. Oftentimes, services would continue until two to three in the afternoon. No one allowed weekend plans to interfere with attending a Sunday evening service because missing a service most assuredly meant missing a move of God. As we gathered corporately, the Lord was faithful to move in tangible and glorious ways.

One particular evening, I was singing on the worship team. That night when we arrived for practice prior to the service, the weight of His presence entered into the sanctuary. Rehearsal never ended. In a place of surrender we continued to exalt Him. As members arrived and entered the room, they instantly responded to His presence and quietly made their way to a seat or the altar. No one had to explain His glory was there. All who entered immediately knew. We had entered the glory realm, the realm of eternity. The realm of the revelation of the presence of God. At one point as we continued in abandoned worship, the weight was heavy and unearthly, beyond human words of expression. I opened my eyes to see. As I looked out over the crowd, I watched as a thick cloud supernaturally descended on hundreds of people. No eyes were opened. Each person was lost in the moment with the Lord. Suddenly, without anyone in the congregation aware of what the others were doing, each person in that sanctuary in full abandonment raised their hands simultaneously, threw their heads back, opened their eyes, and began to shout, "Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!" People fell out in the presence, weeping, and joy broke out across the auditorium. Jesus had entered that room that night. Lives were radically transformed. Many were set free and several saved.

He is glory. When we encounter Him in that glory realm of the throne room of heaven it is transforming. Paul shares in 2 Corinthians 3:17-18: "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty [emancipation from bondage, true freedom]. And we all, with unveiled face, continually seeing as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are progressively being transformed into His image from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, [who is] the Spirit" (AMP). God not only wants us set free, He wants us to find that freedom by encountering Jesus in His perfect, glorious, kingly majesty so that we will become the reflection of His resplendent, divine brightness. Friends, I can attest to the truth that when we draw near to Jesus and encounter Him personally in all His majestic holiness, He draws near to us and His light and love transform us. When that takes place, nothing and no one can ever take from us that supernatural, glorious, transformational moment. It becomes a defining moment in our lives, one that affirms who we are and what we have become—people captivated by Jesus and abandoned to the Father, spiritually on fire for Him and totally committed to Him from a place of deep, sincere thankfulness.

From this place of transformational personal encounter, our hearts continue to stir and a hunger is ignited as we draw nearer and nearer to Him. Friends, He is a relational Father and He desires for each of us to cultivate an atmosphere to experience more of Him. Not only to experience more of Him, but to enter into a place in the heavenly throne room beyond the veil. When Jesus died on the cross, the veil to the holy of holies was rent in two from top to bottom. This signified that Jesus

had now made a way for all mankind, for those who would choose Him and His Kingdom, to have access to Him and His glorious presence. What is even more profound and beautiful is that He sent the Holy Spirit to be here with us to anoint and empower all believers to walk in a supernatural life. John the Baptist clearly states in Luke 3:16 what Jesus will bring: “But John intervened: ‘I’m baptizing you here in the river. The main character in this drama, to whom I’m a mere stagehand, will ignite the Kingdom life, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He’s going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. He’ll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he’ll put out with the trash to be burned’” (MSG). To understand more fully what occurred at Pentecost and what is available to each of us today, let’s look at what we receive when we welcome the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit Empowered

“Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting” (Acts 2:2). For some reason, in my own thinking I always knew this event was significant, but I never fully understood or grasped how incredibly supernatural this historic encounter was until three years ago in an all-night intercession time. In the early morning hours, the Lord led me to study the full meaning of the words from Acts 2:1-4 and to do so from the Bible software I use when studying and preparing teachings. Suffice it to say that this event in the Upper Room was not casual. And while receiving the gift of tongues is awesome and I am so blessed to have a prayer language, this was only a portion of what transpired for the 120 disciples and what is made available to each of us.

When studying the translation of the words *mighty rushing wind*, a clear and descriptive picture of what happened is established. This wind was mighty and it carried a force, impact, and burden. As it rushed in, it went to the very deepest part of a man or woman that is able to respond to God. They were suddenly, instantly filled with the very breath of life of God Himself, the Holy Spirit. And when they were filled their minds, thoughts, emotions, and belief in spirit-realm encounters were instantaneously transformed into a new paradigm and a Kingdom of God way of thinking. It was a sudden and drastic change that filled each of them with boldness, joy, and fire, and tongues of fire were distributed on each of them. The fire of the Holy Spirit anointed and empowered each of them and they were set aflame, a burning torch. Let’s depict this in an even clearer picture. Instead of looking at the burning bush, they became the burning bush. The burning ones, commissioned by God Himself to go out and boldly proclaim the Gospel, to see a harvest come forth and to literally carry an empowerment to dramatically turn the world upside down for the Kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit is this wind—the very breath of God, the fire carrying the glory and His *ruach*, His breath of life that comes into the deepest part of a man or woman who can respond to Him. Just as the 120 were filled, we too are completely filled, transformed from the inside out, and emboldened with His fire and glory to move and advance His Kingdom in this lost world.

Holy Spirit is God here with us. When we are baptized in Him and cultivate a relationship with Him, there is a power and authority given to pray to see breakthrough come. He fills us with His fire and presence. He ushers us into the throne room to encounter Jesus and His glory. In this place we are awakened to the reality that we are vitally united to Jesus and our heavenly Father and empowered and anointed for great Kingdom exploits. Our spiritual eyes and ears are open to see and hear as Jesus speaks and leads us in our intercession. We are filled with the might and power

of Jesus—a light that causes darkness to be expelled. Boldness, power, and authority are realized to engage in effective warfare to see victory. Some reading might be praying faithfully but are not seeing results or breakthrough in your intercession. I want to speak encouragement that if you have not received the infilling of the Holy Spirit, invite Him into your life. Welcome Him to baptize you in His glorious presence. As you cultivate a relationship with Him, His power and authority for victory will be ignited and made known in your intercession.

Another transformational promise in this encounter—the Holy Spirit “filled the whole house where they were sitting.” The *whole house* meant the room, each person in that room, a temple or meeting place of the Lord, the entire family line from generation to generation, and the property and possessions associated with a house or household (Strong’s #G3624). Meaning that the family line is now marked to have the choice to receive this awesome gift! Wow! What an awesome prayer strategy when praying for our family, prodigals, and our homes and possessions—praying from the promise of the blessing that is placed on our family line when we are filled with the Spirit of God.

Lord, cause the prodigals to hear and feel the wooing and nudging of Your Spirit so that they will respond to Your pull in the Spirit to return to You. Lord, we say in all areas where our lost loved ones and friends have struggled in a battle to know Your truth, that they will hear and respond to Your voice, Your Spirit, and be saved. We prophesy this in agreement with the promise that You have marked our family lines to hear and receive You. Let all darkness hear the promise of the Lord. My family will be saved!

Personally Entering the Glory Realm

We are all familiar with the temple of the Lord so vividly described in the Old Testament. The outer court, the inner chamber, the Holy of Holies that housed the Ark of the Covenant, the very presence of God. The blueprint of the temple was a picture that the God we worship is a Trinity. Three persons in one—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Word of God tells us we are made in His image and likeness, and we are three-part beings made up of the body, soul, and spirit. Just as the temple was modeled on God’s design of a three-person Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the divine forming and make-up of each of us is that, we too, are the temple—body, soul, and spirit. When Jesus came, He made the way for each of us to be anointed and appointed in the throne room of His presence.

As previously discussed, the veil was rent in two. The Holy Spirit is the heavenly host within the inner chambers of the Holy Holies. He prepares and serves our spiritual food. He lifts us up into the presence of Jesus into His throne room to encounter Him in His glory. The fire, glory, and presence that was depicted in the temple in the Old Testament within the Holy of Holies is now within each of us. As ones who are a new creation in Christ filled with the Holy Spirit, we become the carriers of His fire and glory—the living temples of the Lord. This is the dimension in which everything in our Christian walk is to be birthed.

Friends, as we advance in this teaching it will be made evident that this is where the assignments for warfare are spoken and the blueprint strategies for victory revealed. We then bring the blueprints we have received and implement them in the earth to possess the land for Him. In

other words, we bring heaven to earth. So how do we begin to experience, activate, and walk out this spiritual truth?

Abide in Him

Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me (John 15:4 AMPC).

If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you (John 15:7 AMPC).

Ask whatever you will and it will be done for you? Wow, what a promise. But some might be asking, “Is she saying God answers whatever we ask of Him?” My answer is yes and no. It depends on the basis and the foundation where the intercession and prayer originated. Allow me to explain further.

Upon hearing the word *abide*, our minds quickly go to the normal steps we have been taught and know to be true, which we will also discuss in depth in this book. However, as we begin to move in that direction, let’s take a closer look at this word, *abide*. The Greek word is *meno*. It means to remain, dwell, continue, endure, not to depart from, to continue to be present (continually), to be held and kept (Strong’s #G3306). In other words, when we abide we become so in tune with His presence from the dedicated times of entering in beyond the veil and encountering Him in His glory that we grow into the ability to remain in existence with Him. We know who we are in Him. He is very real and close to us. We are not separate or apart, but vitally united to. The following is an incredible promise that Jesus shared:

No one has greater love [no one has shown stronger affection] than to lay down (give up) his own life for his friends. You are My friends if you keep on doing the things which I command you to do. I do not call you servants (slaves) any longer, for the servant does not know what his master is doing (working out). But I have called you My friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from My Father. [I have revealed to you everything that I have learned from Him.] You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed you [I have planted you], that you might go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit may be lasting [that it may remain, abide], so that whatever you ask the Father in My Name [as presenting all that I AM], He may give it to you (John 15:13-16 AMPC).

Such an awesome Kingdom promise. He is stating that you and I can be vitally united to Him, His friends to whom He reveals everything, and we will see answers to our prayers. I believe He hears all of our prayers. But the key is this—when we are vitally united to Him our prayer burdens and assignments become those that He has entrusted to us. Praying in unison and agreement with His heart over a matter is key for breakthrough. Truthfully, to be vitally united to Him and effectual intercessors, warriors, prophets, and believers, we must know the realms of the glory. Otherwise we live in the realm of man’s understanding and spend most of our time interceding and warring over all the wrong things. When we move in beyond the veil into the realm of His Spirit. He shows us what to target because the glory causes our spiritual eyes and ears to be opened to see, hear, and

receive from Him. Therefore, we must be intentional of pursuing Him so our spiritual walk and intercession becomes His intercession and we see the breakthrough come.

Set Aside Time with Him

Time spent in prayer will yield more than that given to work. Prayer alone gives work its worth and its success. Prayer opens the way for God to do His work in us and through us. Let our chief work as God's messengers be intercession: in it we secure the presence and power of God to go with us. —Andrew Murray, *The Ministry of Intercession*

In intercession our King upon His throne finds His Highest glory; in it we will find our highest glory too. —Andrew Murray, *The Plea for More Prayer*

Drawing close to Him is essential. You must have a time and place that provides an uninterrupted atmosphere to focus on Him. For some of you this might be hours. The location should be one where you are not interrupted by phone calls, texts, social media, television, other people, or anything that will distract. This is a committed space and time just between you and Him. This is about building relationship. As beautifully stated by Alice Smith, “He has rent the veil, but we must open the door! We must risk being known completely if we are to be complete in Him.”¹ Hear me. It is my prayer that as you read this book this reality awakens you—He desires to commune with you, to have relationship with you, and for you to encounter Him in His glory. The more we allow and make room for this time, the more our ability to yield to the Spirit and flow in His anointing and presence increases. Therefore, when we are called to wield authority in the Spirit we hit the mark and see results.

Ascending through Praise, Thanksgiving, and Worship

Praise until the spirit of worship comes. Worship until the glory comes. Then stand in the glory. —Ruth Ward Heflin, *Glory: Experiencing the Atmosphere of Heaven*

There is a progression that occurs when we enter into His presence through praise, thanksgiving, and worship. Praise Him for who He is. Exalt Him and speak His greatness. In this dedicated, set-aside time, don't come with a list of problems to repeat and pray through. The more we do this and longer we do this, the more our faith begins to waver. Why? Because the problem grows bigger and bigger and we will not ascend into His throne room to receive from Him. Make this allotted time about Him and glorify Him in His goodness and greatness. He delights in our praise. Our voice is the greatest instrument of praise that the Lord has given us.

Praise, worship, and glorify our heavenly Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. They are three persons in one, each with their own personality and desire to relate to us. Therefore, all should be exalted and intimacy developed with all three. Praise is just the beginning. We continue on in this journey of glorifying His character, holiness, love, and majesty and we enter into worship. Allow me to share, at this point, that sometimes we sell ourselves short by not crossing over the finish line. What do I mean by this? We settle for a taste of Him or an increased anointing, but He wants us to continue until we encounter His glory. Press through into abandoned and surrendered encounters until our praise rises with the sound of thundering and echoing into the atmosphere, as

John so clearly heard: “the voice of a great multitude,” “the voice of many waters,” and “the voice of mighty thunderings” (Rev. 19:6 KJV). Praise releases the atmosphere for victory; worship releases the atmosphere for His presence and anointing, which usher us into the throne room of His glory.

He Is Not Threatened by Our Imperfections

As we will discuss in Chapter Three, His love is unconditional. You can bring your flaws, failures, and concerns into His presence, and when you are in that face-to-face glory presence His goodness, loving-kindness, and love will bring you to a point of cleansing and forgiveness as you submit yourself to Him.

In this place of abiding, it will produce:

1. Purity: The more time we spend in His presence, the more we become like Him and are transformed into His image.
2. Revelation: Time in His presence causes us to learn His voice and to know His ways. Revelation, wisdom, and prophecy increase and accuracy is developed. And we will pray, prophesy, and decree as He directs.
3. A surrender to His ways and a life of obedience: Abiding births a hunger causing us to want to rise to a position of remaining vitally united to Him through a life of obedience to His voice and leadings.
4. A willingness to die to ourselves: Our focus becomes about Him and His Kingdom as we allow Him to do a deep work in our lives. A cry of personal transformation and change begins to resonate through us, “Lord, I want more of You! I am hungry for more of You! Because there is so much more. Lord, I want to know You more!”
5. Humility: We remain low in order rise up.
6. Discernment: Time in His presence and Word and gleaning from His truths will cause sensitivity and discernment. The ability to know good from evil, right from wrong. A knowing when He has entered the room, when the angelic realm is with us, and when evil is present. A knowing and discerning of the times we are in.
7. Strategies and blueprints for breakthrough to glory-anointed prayer assignments: These assignments that carry an anointing for victory cause darkness to fear, tremble, and flee.
8. Authority: As we posture ourselves before Him there is a rising up that occurs in our spirit man to stand, intercede, contend, and partner with Him to see His Kingdom manifested in the world.

The more you spend time with Him in the glory, the more you will begin to radiate Him. Moses is a great example. He spent 40 days abiding in the spiritual glory realm. When he descended from that mountain, the glory was so visible on him that he had to wear a veil. Time of abiding in the glory will be made known and evident. Personal revival is moving beyond the anointing and abiding in His glory. People and the spiritual realm will see it on you and hear it in your voice. It will resound with an awakened sound in your praise and worship. The glory marks people in a distinct way for the Kingdom of God.

Rees Howells: Abiding to Bind the Strongman

The following is a testimony of one of the most powerful anointed intercessors who influenced world history with undeniable, measurable results. His name was Rees Howells. It was actually during the time of reading the book *Rees Howells Intercessor* by Norman Grubb that I experienced incredible supernatural glory encounters with Jesus in which He spoke to me with clear certainty the calling to intercession in the nations. Let's learn from Mr. Howells' journey how we too can abide to victory and breakthrough.

One night, when Rees Howells and his friends were returning from the villa, they passed a group of women who never came to their meetings. They could tell by their voices that they had been drinking. One of the party exclaimed, "Where is the power to change these people?" It was a challenge, and Rees Howells took it. There and then the Spirit gave it to him that he was to pick out the ringleader of those women, who was a notorious character and a confirmed drunkard, and pray her into the Kingdom by Christmas Day!

Allow me to pause here and ask this question: When we are presented with challenges such as this, do we shrink back, or do we accept it and stand? You see, the Holy Spirit spoke to him that he was to accept the challenge, abide, stand, and believe, and by Christmas day this woman would be saved. In accepting this challenge, he received clear instructions that he was not to do it by personally speaking with her about the Gospel. He was to win her salvation in the abiding place of the throne room.

For Rees this was a new place of intercession. He had seen many bound by alcohol receive salvation, but it had always been through personal connections. In this particular situation, he did not know this woman. The Lord was using this to cause his faith in the place of abiding to grow. It was a test of strength to obediently follow the Lord's leading and press into the power of atonement through Jesus' death and resurrection. He was to bind the strongman and see his house plundered in this woman's life through this abiding place. Once he saw this victory, he would be able to see it and apply it over many other prayer burdens to effect many.

As we continue to look at this testimony, ask the Lord to open your spiritual understanding to hear and receive His prayer strategies for breakthrough. Sometimes we are presented with challenges that seem difficult. More times than not, the Lord's strategy will seem unconventional to our own way of thinking. But when we are obedient to come into His abiding place and hear His blueprint plan for breakthrough and pray accordingly, we witness Him move in glorious ways. Let's continue to learn of the victorious outcome this abiding place secured for this woman.

The Spirit gave him John 15:7: "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." It would all depend on his abiding.

As this "abiding" was to take such a central place in his future life of intercession, it is important to see what the Holy Spirit taught Mr. Howells about it. The key text, John 15:7, makes it plain that the promise is unlimited, but its fulfillment would depend on the abiding. That is why in all cases of intercession, Mr. Howells constantly spoke of guarding his "place of abiding."

The Scriptural key to abiding is in 1 John 2:6, "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also to walk even as He walked." In other words, it meant being willing for the Holy Spirit to live through him the life the Savior would have lived if He had been in

his place.: “The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked” (NASB).

The way Mr. Howells maintained the abiding was by spending a set time of waiting upon God every day during the period in which the intercession lasted. The Holy Spirit would speak to him through the Word, revealing any standard that he was to come up to, particularly in “the laws of the Kingdom”—Sermon on the Mount. Any command the Spirit gave him, he must fulfill because the abiding is the keeping of His commandments (John 15:10). The Spirit would also search his heart and throw light on his daily life, revealing any motives or actions that needed confession and cleansing in the Blood.

The Spirits dealing were not so much with outward shortcomings as with the self-nature out of which they sprang. Any transgression was never to be repeated, but specific obedience on that point would be called for until radical inward change was effected. He was “purified...in obeying the truth through the Spirit” (1 Peter 1:22).

The necessity for abiding is seen in that same chapter—John 15. The life is the Vine. As the branch remains united to it by abiding in it, that life of the Vine produces the fruit through the branch. In other words, the power is in Christ. As the intercessor remains united to Him by abiding in Him, His power operates through the intercessor and accomplishes what needs to be done.

As Mr. Howells would continue in this place of abiding day by day he would be increasingly conscious that the Spirit was engaging the enemy in battle and overcoming him, until finally he would become fully assured of the victory. The Spirit would then tell him that the intercession was finished, the position gained, and he would await the visible deliverance in praise and faith.

There are degrees and stages in abiding. The deeper the oneness, the more the power of the risen life of Christ can operate through the channel, and new positions of spiritual authority be gained...But with obedience came cleansing, until by the second week, he said, “I had become more used to my position, and could see the Holy Ghost binding the devil. I soon realized I was not fighting against flesh and blood, but ‘against wicked spirits in heavenly places.’”

The weeks that followed, as he “gave prompt obedience to the Holy Spirit in all things,” were times of wonderful fellowship, until by the end of the sixth week the Spirit told him the abiding was complete and the victory assured. “I was abiding now without being called to abide, walking in the position, and the Lord told me that I could now expect to see this woman make the move.”

That very night, with a thrill in his soul, Rees saw her in the open-air meeting for the first time, and he told the devil, “Now I know the Holy Ghost is stronger than you; you have been brought to nought on Calvary.”

He took no steps to influence this woman in any way, but soon she began to come to cottage meetings. A great number of people became onlookers as they heard of the prayer. It was now the case of praising before the victory, and in the remaining weeks before Christmas the Holy Spirit did not allow him to pray for her. “It was a conflict with not praying,” he said, “as the adversary pressed on us the need of prayer; but it

would have been a prayer of doubt,” During that time there was no outward sign of repentance in the woman.

Christmas morning came... When the time for the meeting came, the woman was there, but a lot of people had brought their children; there was plenty of noise, and in no sense the kind of atmosphere which would influence a person to repent. But in the middle of the meeting “down she went on her knees and cried to God for mercy. It was a victory beyond value, and she is standing today.”²

Bringing Heaven Here on Earth

Even as I type this powerful testimony I weep. Lord, cause me to yield even more to Your Spirit. Holy Spirit, live through me. Cause me to carry the burdens of intercession for my family, my city, my region, my nation, and the nations. Friends, when we encounter Him in the glory realm, we in turn bring heaven here on earth. It is in supernatural abiding encounters in the glory where we are anointed and receive strategies to see the schemes of the enemy defeated, victories won, breakthrough manifested, and transformation made known in the earth. And as prophetically revealed in Habakkuk 2:14, “The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.”