



God's surpassing glory is our surpassing pleasure.

I. The King's Surpassing Greatness (1-10)

- A. Unsearchable Greatness (3, 8, 9)
- B. Who should talk about the King like this?
- C. When? How often? (1-2)
- D. The Lord is ... (8-9)

II. The King's Provision and Protection (10-20)

- A. The Splendor of His Kingdom (11-13)
- B. Common Grace in His Kingdom (14-16)
- C. Special Grace to the Believing Community (18-20)

How does this apply to me?



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INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

At around the end of AD 51, Paul left Corinth with his two co-workers, Priscilla and Aquila. Traveling to Ephesus, Paul spoke in the synagogue but didn't remain for long, making his way back to Antioch. Priscilla and Aquila remained in Ephesus to begin sharing the gospel there. Having shared what God was doing with his sending church in Antioch (surely he taught among them as well), Paul left once again for his third journey as a missionary (about AD 52 – 57). Traveling through Asia Minor, he strengthened the first churches he had helped to establish on his first journey.

When he arrived in Ephesus, he found a believing Jew, Apollos, who hailed from Alexandria in Egypt. A large Jewish community lived there. Apollos was a powerful speaker, but lacked a thorough understanding of Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit. Priscilla and Aquila had taken him aside and he was a quick learner. His influence was great and many became believers.

Paul's arrival brought further clarity to the gospel. He would spend over two years in Ephesus, establishing a church that would have far reaching impact with the gospel across that part of the world.

PASSAGE OVERVIEW

As we read this passage in Acts, we see how the penetration of the gospel necessarily impacts every aspect of life. Young believers started to grow in their faith in the face of opposition. Religious people tried to imitate Paul's message and method to their own peril. The transforming work of the Spirit through the Word formed new creations in Christ. These new disciples made a clean break with their past, causing a spiritual impact that had cultural and even economic consequences that rocked the city. The Word of the Lord prevailed. It wasn't Paul that changed things. Nor was it the new Christians. It was the Word that changed lives and impacted everything those lives touched.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Acts 18:19 - 19:20

HighlandPark
Baptist Church

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