

Future Glory

John 5:44 “How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God?”

John 7:18 “He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Immediate gratification means, pleasure and satisfaction...right now! I've battled with it, and there's only one truth that I know of that is powerful enough to truly stave it off.

In moments of temptation I've went over my identity in Christ, who Jesus is, and who I am as a father, husband, and preacher. But when the time of testing comes, even those precious truths can be bullied back into a corner by the flesh. And then, if you cry out to the LORD, he will rescue, but many times your flesh makes it so that your spirit doesn't want to cry out to God for help.

That's when you need this precious truth that will make you want to cry out to God, and embrace who Jesus is, and who you are in Christ. And that truth is this: You have present blessings and future glory when you go to be with God, all for God's glory.

You don't work for your salvation, but you can squander that precious gift on illicit pleasures of the flesh, and risk hardening your heart to the point that you don't want God in your life anymore. Or you can make the most out of salvation, grace, and faith by living all and only for God, knowing for a fact that you will be rewarded in heaven for how you live today. Why would Jesus refer so many times to the greatest and the least in the kingdom of Heaven? Look at 1 Corinthians 3:10ff. Don't let present struggles with sin steal your future glory.