GLORY TO GOD

"Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on earth, Good will toward men," said the multitude of the heavenly host, to the shepherds, at Christmas time - or did they? (Luke 2 :14)

Did they really say that?

Sure they did. It's in the King James Bible. Just like that. **GLORY** to God means brightness and light and shining, like stars.

Not always. Sometimes, **GLORY** is a command to **THINK** a certain way.

Where are you coming from? **GLORY** always means light, doesn't it?

My daughters recently called my attention to the fact, that **GLORY** is from the Greek, Strong's G1391, DOXA. It is from the base of Strong's G1380 which means to **THINK**. The root meaning of **GLORY** is to **THINK** right. When the Bible says to give **GLORY** to God, you know you can't give LIGHT or BRIGHTNESS or SHINING to God - can you?

No. But I see that I can **THINK** right about Him. Is that what you mean?

If you **THINK** on God's SPLENDOR and DIGNITY, that's what I mean, because that's the meaning of **GLORY** that we can give to God.

I don't feel threatened when I learn something new about the Bible.

EL ELYON - THE MOST HIGH GOD

Did you know the heavenly host said to give your thoughts of SPLENDOR and DIGNITY to EL ELYON the MOST HIGH GOD?

No. They said to give **GLORY** to God in the highest.

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See the word "highest?" How was it translated in Luke 1:32, 35?

It is "Highest" with a capital H. That means, MOST HIGH GOD - EL ELYON (in the Hebrew).

Right. How would you translate that section of the message of the heavenly host?

Let's see. "**THINK** about the SPLENDOR and DIG-NITY of the MOST HIGH GOD - EL ELYON." Wow! What a great idea at **Christmas**.

GOOD WILL

Right. I agree. But there's more. Look at the words "GOOD WILL" as in GOOD WILL toward men. It's another translation goof. "GOOD WILL" is Strong's G2107, from the base of Strong's G1380. Isn't that a wonderful revelation from Bible study? You were just informed the word "GLORY" is from the base of Strong's G1380, and now you know "GOOD WILL" is from the <u>same</u> base of G1380. That means, "GLORY" and "GOOD WILL" are from the <u>same</u> base, or root word, meaning "TO THINK." The word "GLORY" and the words "GOOD WILL" are commands to THINK.

HOW TO THINK

Are you saying that the message of the heavenly host was really a message about "HOW TO **THINK**?" That's going to ruin a lot of Christmas cards!

I hope not. When the translators said "Glory to God in the highest," the heavenly host really said, "THINK about the SPLENDOR and DIGNITY of EL ELYON, the MOST HIGH GOD." When the translators said, "GOOD WILL toward men," the heavenly host really said, "THINK about the good in men."

Any more problems with the translators?

IN AND TOWARD

Yes. Look at the word "IN," as in "Glory to God <u>in</u> the Highest." (Strong's G1722)

What can possibly be wrong with that?

Nothing, but now look at the word "TOWARD", as in *GOOD WILL TOWARD men.* That word "TOWARD" is exactly the same Greek word, as the word "IN." The translators agreed that **GLORY** is <u>IN</u> God, and so do we. But when they came to the next half of the message, they couldn't believe that **GOOD** WILL is <u>IN</u> men, so they changed it to TOWARD men. Sad again. It should read, "THINK about the good in men."

I have a sense that we are on to something. What?

WHAT THE HEAVENLY HOST SAID

The message of the heavenly host that we need to know today is: "**THINK** ABOUT THE SPLENDOR AND DIGNITY IN EL ELYON, THE MOST HIGH GOD, AND **THINK** ABOUT THE GOOD IN MEN, AND THOSE THOUGHTS WILL BRING PEACE TO YOU."

I don't know about that. The old translation has a good, happy, and poetical ring to it. *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

POETRY

Granted. But you did raise the new subject of Biblical poetry. The new translation follows the ancient tradition of poetry by stating a fact and then repeating the main idea with the next phrase, while making a slight change at the same time. A little like, "There are three things to wonderful for me, yea, four things I know not." (Prov. 30:18) Are you implying that your new translation of the message of the heavenly host is better than the KJV trans

lators because yours is more poetical?

COMPUTER BIBLE STUDY

Sort of. But there is still more about "GLORY" you need to know. I used the new computer to print out every reference to "GLORY" in the New Testament. When I used to use my KJV Bible and my Strong's Concordance for a study, it used to take me 3 or 4 days to get this far into it. The new computer took about an hour in comparison. I discovered that there are seven different ways the word "GLORY" is used, and they don't always mean the same thing. In other words, "GLORY" has several meanings that are not fully identified in Strong's.

THE SEVEN GLORIES

1. The **GLORY** that the GODHEAD already has. (Matt. 6:13, Luke 2:9, John 1:14, 2:11, 11:40, 12:41, etc. - there are 38 more)

a. The **GLORY** was manifest, shone, we saw, we see, beheld, etc.

b. A light that can be seen.

2. The **GLORY** that we give to the GODHEAD. (Luke 2:14, 19:38, John 9:24, Acts 12:23, etc., there are 13 others)

a. This **GLORY** is produced by the way we **THINK** about GOD.

b. A thought or thoughts.

3. The **GLORY** that JESUS will have in the future. (Matt. 19:28, 24:30, 25:31, etc., there are 13 others)

a. This **GLORY** is a combination of the LIGHT in example 1 that the GODHEAD has, and the THOUGHTS we give (or are to give) to the GOD-HEAD.

b. LIGHT and THOUGHT.

4. The **GLORY** that man has. (Matt. 6:29, Luke 2:32, 12:27, etc., there are 15 others)

a. This **GLORY** appears to be more from THOUGHTS than LIGHT.

5. The **GLORY** that man will have at the second coming (return) of the Lord JESUS CHRIST. (Luke 14:10, John 5:44, 7:18, etc., there are 19 more)

a. This **GLORY** is a combination of LIGHT and THOUGHT.

6. The **GLORY** of the heavenly (celestial) bodies, sun, moon, and stars. (1 Cor. 15:40, 41)

a. LIGHT

7. The **GLORY** of the world. (Matt. 4:8, Luke 4:6, 1 Cor. 15:40)

a. The devil said he possessed that **GLORY** and he could give it to anyone he wanted.

b. The devil is a big liar, but he often tells half truths, to confuse.

I'm giving in. That many examples are making me think you are probably right.

CHERUBIM OF GLORY

Now we will look at an example of a revelation that has not been written about before, as far as I know. The "CHERUBIM OF **GLORY**" in Hebrews 9:5 is the only example of a N.T. quote from the Old Testament that I can find regarding GLORY. (Ezek. 10:18, 19, 11:22) We can now say with confidence that Strong's <u>G</u>1391 **GLORY** is the same as Strong's <u>H</u>3519 **GLORY** because they describe the same thing. The Greek word **GLORY** and the Hebrew word **GLORY** both describe the "CHERUBIM OF **GLORY**." So that means we have to also study the Hebrew word for **GLORY** <u>H</u>3519, to find what its light shines upon.

Bible study is fun. It's like a game.11/24/95

GLORY OF GOD - HONOR OF KINGS

Proverbs 25:2 says, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter." Do you feel like a king?

Well - yes, for the moment.

The Hebrew language has 18 different words associated with and mostly translated "**GLORY**." I have decided to only study one of them, at this time.

Praise the Lord, even for small blessings!

GLORY IS LIVER??

The word for further study is Strong's H3519 **GLORY**, because it is equivalent to the Greek word Strong's G1391 that we have been studying. The Hebrew word H3519 **GLORY** is from H3513 which means to be HEAVY, WEIGHTY, and that is associated with H3516, LIVER (the organ). The LIVER is the heaviest of the body organs. You remember my lessons about Moses Tabernacle. The boards are ribs. The corners are shoulders. Recently Gene Brooks from Washington state found that the west wall was thighs. Now we see that the Cherubim of **GLORY** represent (are tokens for) the LIVER.

BODY PARTS IN THE TABERNACLE?

How far can you go with that revelation? I am reminded that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost. Can you identify <u>all</u> the major body parts with equivalent words from Moses Tabernacle?

Not yet, but we'll see later.

What's the use of all this?

HOW DO YOU THINK?

It has changed my life for the better, and now I hope it will change yours. It used to be that when I went to sleep, I rehearsed all of the negative things that happened to me that day. I thought about, "he said, we went, I said, they did" etc. I couldn't find peace and I couldn't fall asleep. Now I think, meditate, rotate on the SPLENDOR and DIGNITY of EL ELYON and that brings peace and I fall asleep a lot sooner, and my sleep is more restful and deep.

Give me another example.

SKEPTICAL AND CYNICAL

It used to be that when I thought about civil government I was always very skeptical, even cynical. I did not believe government could ever do anything right. Every time I looked at a cop I thought about a bad cop, not a good cop. When I thought about politics, I thought that those clowns in Washington can't ever get anything right. I admit I was a faultfinder and a pessimist about most of the government. Now I know I must think about the goodness in men. I must look at the republicans and democrats and think that there is a good possibility that those people will turn into statesmen and perform something truly good for us. Wow! That's a very big change in your personality. Is it working?

HOW TO THINK

Yes. It's working. I start with the SPLENDOR and DIGNITY of EL ELYON. Then I divide that into the goodness and possibility in men. I'm not always perfect, but I am getting better.

Give me an example.

BREAKFAST AT THE U.S. SENATE

Our GOD provided an invitation to a breakfast for Betty, Senator Specter, Senator Heinz, myself, and 58 other dignitaries from Pennsylvania. And with whom do you think our GOD arranged for us to sit?

Don't tell me - Senators Specter and Heinz?

Yes. How do you think it would have gone if my old cynical self had control?

Not very well. How did it go?

FEDERAL RESERVE

Great. I asked questions designed to get them talking about the upcoming bill to audit the Federal Reserve. It resulted in a lecture by Senator Specter to those 60 Pennsylvania dignitaries about the evils of the present Federal Reserve System and the need to return the control to the congress where the constitution says it should be. It was as good a lecture as if I had given it myself. My changed attitude at the breakfast table about the goodness in men produced a demonstration that still has the potential to change our great nation for the good.

A SPLENDID MEAL

What was it like to have a splendid meal, and social time with your own two U.S. senators?

This scripture rotated over and over in my mind. Psalm 113:7-8, *He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; that he may set him with princes, even the princes of his people.*

A PROPHECY

What an appropriate prophecy! What did you think about when you ate with your senators?

This is the other scripture that returned over and over to my mind. Proverbs 23:1-2, *When thou sitteth to eat* with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee: and put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite.

You've got'a be kidding.

I'm not kidding. The event was filled with the "GLORY" of the world; but I knew I was there to represent the SPLENDOR and DIGNITY of EL ELYON the Most High God at the occasion. I did the best I could and at the end of the time together an aid of Senator Heinz asked me if I would pose for a picture with him. Yes. It is a treasured possession of mine, and doubly so because no one could have known that before the week was up, the headlines would scream, "Heinz killed in airplane crash near Philadelphia."

How important it is, that we throw away our cynical thoughts and seize the opportunity with appeals to the goodness in men. Successful actions come from successful thinking. Isn't that what the heavenly host said at Christmas time?

Yes. Merry Christmas.

Luke 2:14, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (KJV)

Luke 2:14, **Think** about the splendor and dignity in El Elyon, the Most High God, and **think** about the good in men, and those thoughts will bring peace to you. (Contemporary Translation)

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