

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 5 (#912120)

WEEK 1 (#912325)

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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Living For God's Glory

TITLE: Program 5 – When The Glory Departs!

FRIDAY

OPEN

Ichabod! The glory of God departed. It departed in the days of Samuel. It departed in the vision of Ezekiel. The question is: Where is the glory of God that once was in the United States of America? Has the glory of God departed from this nation? And if so, when did the Spirit of God start to move off and take His blessing with Him?

PART ONE

If you really want to appreciate the vision that Ezekiel had of the glory of God departing, you need to put Jeremiah, Daniel and Ezekiel together, because they were contemporary prophets. And this is what I want to do today with you as we look at the glory of God departing from a nation, and the glory of God departing from the United States of America. And you may say, "Kay, do you believe that His glory has gone from us?" I tell you, honestly, personally, I believe that the glory of God is departing from this nation. And you and I have a responsibility to say, "Oh no, not as long as I

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am here! Because as long as I am here, as long as I'm living on this Planet Earth, as long as I am living in this nation, I am going to do what God has called me to do. I am going to glorify God in my body. I am going to so know Him, so love Him, so cling to Him that I am going to be changed from glory to glory into the image of God. But I'm not going to do it by myself. I'm not going to do it alone. I'm going to discover truth for myself. I'm going to go deeper into that truth and into that glory and I'm gonna disciple others. And I'm going to get others to come alongside me." You say, "I don't know exactly how to do that." Listen, I want to connect you with this Ministry. I don't want you just to be a hearer of the message. I want this message to grip your heart and I want you to become involved in Precept Ministries International. We want you to discover truth for yourself, to behold that truth as in a mirror in the Word of God and to be changed from glory to glory, as 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, into the image of Jesus Christ. So contact us. Go to "preceptsforlife.com" and I would love to hear your comments. And I would love to know if this program is really impacting your life, because I'm not here to entertain you. I'm not here to manipulate you. I'm not here to get your money—although we need supporters— but I'm not here for that purpose. I'm not here for my glory. I am here for the Word of God so that I can guard His glory and you can guard the glory of God. Now remember, we were looking at Ezekiel. And we were looking at the "Shekinah" glory, the pillar of cloud, the glory of God departing along with the cherubim from over the temple to the Eastern Gate to going out of the city. And what I want us to do is I want us to go back to Ezekiel. I want us to look at Ezekiel chapter 11, the very end of it, and I want to show you something the, the way the book flows. In Ezekiel chapter 11 it says verse 22, **"Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel..."** and you want to mark that with a purple cloud, color it yellow. **"...Hovered over them. The glory of the LORD..."** and you want to color it that way again, **"...went up from**

the midst of the city and stood over the mountain which is east of the city.” (Ezekiel 11:22-23) Now the mountain that is east of the city is the Mount of Olives. And so the Eastern Gate, when you come to Israel with us, if you want all Bible and you want it intense and you want it good and you want it all day long and you want it personalized and me being with you, not just show up for one big event or two big events, but with me all day long, if you can handle me all day long, then go to Israel with us. When we sit on the Mount of Olives we are facing the Eastern Gate which is in front of the Dome of the Rock. That Eastern Gate is where the cherubim were going and the glory of God was going and from there, over the Kidron Valley to the Mount of Olives. And it says, **“And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God to the exiles in Chaldea....” (Ezekiel 11:24)** You see what happened was God brought His messengers, His true prophets to Israel. Jeremiah came in the days of Josiah, all the way through the captivity, the days of Zedekiah. And Jeremiah came and brought a message from the Lord saying, **“...My people have changed their glory...,”** which is the true understanding of God and the true response to that truth, have changed their glory **“...for that which does not profit.” (Jeremiah 2:11)** So Jeremiah brought the message, “If you don’t shape up God’s gonna ship you out. He’s gonna take you into exile. He’s gonna take you into captivity because of your idolatry.” And so in 605 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar comes over—present-day Iraq, Babylon—the Chaldeans, comes over and conquers Jerusalem and takes a small contingency of the royal house and takes them back to present-day Iraq, then Babylon. Among them is Daniel. It’s 605 B.C. Then the king begins to rebel against Nebuchadnezzar. And so they have a second siege. This time it’s in 597 B.C. and at that time Ezekiel is taken into captivity in Babylon in the land of the Chaldeans. Okay, in 586 B.C. the temple is totally destroyed. This is a vision of what’s happening just before that temple is destroyed. The glory of God is departing. Okay, at that point the Ark of the Covenant disappears in this, in

this Babylonian conquest of the kingdom of Judah, the Ark of the Covenant disappears. It's never seen again. Now as we look at Ezekiel he's saying, "Go back to Chaldea." **"...So the vision that I had seen left me. Then I told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me." (Ezekiel 11:24-25)** Chapter 12, verse 1: **"Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, you live in the midst of [a] rebellious house, who have eyes to see but do not see, [who have] ears to hear but [they] do not hear...they are a rebellious house. Therefore, son of man....'"** That's what He calls Ezekiel. **"...Prepare for yourself baggage for exile and go into exile by day in their sight; even go into exile from your place to another place in their sight. Perhaps they will understand [that] they are a rebellious house.'" (Ezekiel 12:1-3)** So he tells them what to do, how to take his baggage and, and how to demonstrate in a visual way—they were a visual society like ours—that you're going into exile. And see, when you and I do not glorify God as God, and we get entangled in other things, in a sense, we go into exile. We go into captivity. We start doing things that we shouldn't do. We taste things. We experience things and eventually we're in captivity. We're in bondage to that which we have followed. [But if the truth shall set you free you shall be free indeed.] (PARAPHRASED John 8:32) So what I want you to see is this. In 586 B.C. when the Babylonians came over and conquered Jerusalem, when they tore down the temple, on Tish B'Av, on the ninth of Av, on that day when that temple was torn down the Spirit of God, the glory of God had left. The Ark of the Covenant was taken or it was hidden or whatever. They've never seen it again. They have never seen it again. So that's where the glory of God was. So what happens? When the children of Israel returned from 70 years of captivity, when they rebuilt the temple in the days of Ezra, what happened was the glory of God never came back to that temple. The Ark of the Covenant was not there. The pillar of cloud was not there during the day. The pillar of fire was not there during the night. They went through all the motions. They made their sacrifices, but

the glory of God hadn't been seen since that day that Ezekiel saw the glory of God leave in his vision. That was until the days of John the Baptist. There's a voice, a voice of one crying in the wilderness, **"...Prepare ye the way of the Lord...."** (Matthew 3:3 KJV) **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."** (Matthew 3:2) John was announcing that the glory of God was back. We're going to look at that in just a minute. But what I want you to see is that God desires to be with His people. God desires to dwell with His people. God desires to have His people reflect His glory. But it has to be done God's way. And that's what we're going to see in just a minute.

PART TWO

When John the Baptist was introducing Jesus Christ remember he baptized Jesus. And when he baptized Jesus the Spirit of God descended on Jesus and said, **"...This is My beloved Son...."** (Matthew 3:17) This is My beloved Son. Who was the beloved Son? Well, John chapter 1, verse 1 tells us **"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God."** (John 1:1-2) And then in John chapter 1, verse 14 it says **"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we [beheld] His glory...as of the only begotten [of] the Father, full of grace and truth."** (John 1:14) In other words, when Jesus Christ showed up what happened was they saw again the presence of God. They saw God in the flesh. They saw Him not in just, in the cloud, but they saw **"...the Word [that] became flesh [and we beheld] His glory...as of the only begotten [of] the Father, full of grace and truth."** (John 1:14) Now yes, John was the one that introduced Him to Israel. But when Jesus Christ was born and His mother and father wanted to fulfill the Law, they took Him to the temple. And when they took Him to the temple this is what happened, and you read about it in Luke chapter 2. In Luke chapter 2 they come into the temple and there is a man there by the name of Simeon who has been told that he will not die until he sees the Lord's Christ, the Lord's

Messiah, the Promised One, the Anointed One. So he comes into the temple, he sees Jesus and it says in verse 28, **“Then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, ‘Now Lord, You are releasing Your bondservant to depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples.’”** Now listen carefully. **“‘A Light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.’” (Luke 2:28-32)** Here is Jesus and He is the glory of Israel. He is the Promised One. He is the Anointed One. So once again, into the temple, carried in arms and then walking in and out of that temple, in the temple area as a boy of twelve, going up to Jerusalem every year as they were ordered to do, but then, coming into the temple in His three and a half years of public ministry. The glory is back in the temple. And they’re beholding **“...His glory...as of the only begotten [of] the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)** And then, then Jesus walks out of the temple and He says, **“[You’re not going to] see Me [again] until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”(Matthew 23:39)** And Ezekiel writes a prophecy and says that that Eastern Gate is going to be closed until Jesus Christ, until Messiah, comes and He walks through that Eastern Gate again and He is recognized as King of kings and Lord of lords. O Beloved, you say, “But who knows when that’s going to happen?” You and I don’t know, but you and I are here and our bodies are to be His temple. We’re going to study this next week. You’re gonna see it. It’s gonna excite you so much as you get the whole picture from Genesis all the way into the New Testament. But just know this: that when you believe on Jesus Christ, then you are sealed with the Spirit of God and your body becomes His temple and you have a call on your life and that’s 1 Corinthians chapter 6, 1 Corinthians chapter 6. And I would suggest that you look at it so that you can mark the word “glorify”. He says in verse 19, **“Do you not know that your body is [the] temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you...?”** Who’s the Holy Spirit? It’s the very

Spirit of God. It's the very presence of God. He says, **"...Whom you have from God, and that you are not your own."** He says, **"For you have been bought with a price: therefore...."** (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) And when you see a "therefore" it's a term of conclusion. Find out what the "therefore" is there for. **"...You've been bought with a price: therefore..."** what? **"...Glorify God in your body."** (1 Corinthians 6:20) So you want to mark "glorify" just like you marked "glory", glorify, purple cloud, color it yellow, **"...glorify God in your body."** (1 Corinthians 6:20) Now when we glorify God in our body then we keep, we keep the presence of God before the people. And we act as a deterrent to evil. You know, I was talking to you about the glory of God departing from the United States of America, and I think if you follow historians they will tell you that it all, in a sense, really started to become so evident in the 1960's. Were you alive in the 1960's? Robert Bork, who is a professor of Public Law at Yale School and served as Solicitor General as the acting Attorney General of the United States as a United States Court of Appeals Judge, believes it was in the sixties that the moral integrity of our nation came under full-blown assault from which we have never recovered. In 1996, Robert Bourke in his book "Slouching Towards the Gomorrah," wrote this: Thirty years ago Clinton's behavior would have been absolutely disqualifying." It's speaking of President Clinton. It is difficult not to conclude that something about our moral perceptions and reactions has changed profoundly. If that change is permanent, the implication for our future is bleak. What have we had since the 1960's? We have had unprecedented lawlessness. We have the highest percentage of prisoners over any industrialized nation. Immorality, adultery, homosexuality, internet pornography, which is highly stigmatized in 84 countries, is billions of dollars' business in the United States of America. We have AIDS. Every day 8,500 people die due to AIDS. It's about three million a year. It's a plague that, in a sense, surpassed the bubonic plague when about 25 million, one-fourth of Europe's population, was wiped out.

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Six thousand young people between the ages of 15 and 25 are infected daily with the HIV virus. And most of that, most of that comes from immorality. Drug use has increased, alcohol abuse. There's an increasing minority who establish blood-alcohol levels that are nearly lethal. You go down the list. You look at divorce. Look at broken homes. You look at kids out of wedlock. It all started because the church, I believe, left the Word of God, the proclamation of the Word of God, the willingness to lay down their lives and the reputation to uphold truth, to glorify God as God. And as a consequence, this nation has written over it, I think "Ichabod: no glory." O Beloved, may you and I bring back the glory.