

*Introduction*

“We come very far short of attaining FULL views of the blessedness of Jesus, by taking only one aspect or representation of him at a time, instead of combining in one view ALL that the Scriptures shadow forth of his glory. That is, at one time, we view him as a King, then as Almighty, then as a Lamb, then as Light, then as Eternal, then as Compassionate, then as Wrathful, then as Omniscient. This mode of unfolding his character is necessary and wise. BUT in studying his excellencies, let us NOT detach any one of them from the rest; Let us view them as a glorious COMBINATION FORMING TOGETHER ONE WHOLE. The KING crowned with many crowns is Jesus, but not the full development of the glory of Jesus.

And all of these attributes and titles of Jesus in the Bible, however beautiful when viewed alone, are FAR MORE GRAND AND DEEP when seen amid the cluster to which they belong!” (George Burrows)

*The brilliance and brightness of Christ's glory is so great that, should He now let forth the beams of glory upon his people—it would dazzle and astound them; it would strike them blind. Yes, it would strike them dead.*

*(Thomas Vincent)*

“IN JESUS there is every thing that can be desired ... He is ALTOGETHER LOVELY.” (George Burrows)

“THERE IS NOTHING in Jesus which does not cause delights. There is NOTHING in him which is not lovely; and there is NOTHING delightful which is NOT centered in Him. The WHOLE creation is a manifestation of the glory of God (tabernacle, mankind, gardens, flowers, cosmos, science, animals, relationships, redemption)” (George Burrows).

**THESIS — A mark of manhood is to be captivated by the beauty & glory of Christ. How is he glorious? How is He excellent?**

**I. EXCELLENT IN HIS DEITY!**

**II. EXCELLENT IN HIS COMPASSION!**

***John 17:24 — "A Mark of Biblical Manhood: A Man Who's Captivated by the Beauty & Glory of Christ!"***

**III. EXCELLENT IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**IV. EXCELLENT IN HIS PROPITIATION!**

**V. EXCELLENT IN HIS REDEMPTION!**

**VI. EXCELLENT IN HIS PROTECTION!**

**VII. EXCELLENT IN HIS SWEETNESS!**

**VIII. EXCELLENT IN HIS COMMUNION!**

**IX. EXCELLENT IN HIS TENDERNESS!**

**X.EXCELLENT IN HIS INFINITUDE!****APPLICATIONS of the loveliness of Christ for us...**

\*so then, if Christ is this glorious...\*

1. Let us LOVE him
2. Let us DESIRE him (*eclipses all other desires*)
3. Let us WORSHIP him [*honor/reverence/fear/adore*]
4. Let us LEARN him [*study/indulge*]
5. Let us PROCLAIM him [*speak/proclaim/urge/impress*]
6. Let us ENJOY him [*linger long, find comfort*]
7. Let us CONTEMPLATE him (*meditate, fill, chew the cud*)
8. Let us ENTERTAIN him [*he is a friend/honor/respect/welcome/invite*]
9. Let us GLORIFY him [*brag on him; boast in him; make HIM big/great*]

Furthermore, **if Christ IS altogether lovely...**

1. lets **rest** upon his obedience and righteousness [*trust!*]
2. lets **labor** to be IN CHRIST and ensure we're WALKING IN HIM [*examine!*]
3. lets labor to make sure our heart, desires, passions are **pursuing** HIM preeminently. [*pursue!*]
4. lets work to **value him** more and have a holy discontent with the things here till we reach heaven. [*expect/anticipate!*]

“PUT the beauty of ten thousand, thousand worlds of paradises, like the Garden of Eden, in one. Gather all the trees, flowers, smells, colors, tastes, joys, sweetnesses, all loveliness IN ONE. Oh, what a fair & excellent thing that would be! AND YET! It would be less than the fair & dearest WEIL-Beloved, Christ, than ONE drop of rain to the whole seas, rivers, lakes, and fountains of ten thousand earths!” (Samuel Rutherford)

Rutherford's counsel to other Christians:

“I counsel you to think highly of Christ, and of free, free grace, more than you did before: ... I think I see more of Christ than I ever saw before, and yet I see but little of what may be seen! Oh, that he would draw by the curtains,

**John 17:24 — “A Mark of Biblical Manhood: A Man Who's Captivated by the Beauty & Glory of Christ!”**

and that the King would come out of his gallery & His palace that I may SEE HIM! Oh, what price can be given for him! Oh, his weight! His worth! His sweetness, His over-passing beauty! If 10,000 worlds of angels were created, they might all tire themselves in wondering at (considering) HIS beauty! OH that I could come near to kiss His feet, to hear His voice, to feel the smell of His ointments! BUT OH, alas, I have little, little of Him. Yet I long for more!”