

# **The Doctrines of Grace #7**

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel

## **Soli Deo Gloria**

July 14th, 2024

### **Introduction:**

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### **Soli Deo Gloria - Our Only Ambition and Motive:**

Soli Deo Gloria (God's glory alone), our only Motive is that all glory is due to God alone. He is the author of our salvation so that our lives are for His glory - including our understanding, our reasoning, our motives, our actions, and our worship are all to be expressed and driven to bring honor and glory to God.

### **Introduction:**

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### **God's purpose is His glory:**

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### **The importance of recognizing & honoring God's glory:**

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### **The Role of God's glory:**

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## **God's Glory in Worship**

<b>Category</b>	<b>God-Centered</b>	<b>Man-Centered</b>
<b>Goal</b>	Glorifying God by our worship is our overriding goal - our highest priority. (1 Cor. 10:31). The purpose of our corporate worship service is to express our love & worship God. Evangelism, will be active as we worship Him through His Word.	Bringing people in by an entertaining service is the highest goal in man-centered worship. Though this seems like a noble goal for evangelism. Man-centered worship presents a confusing picture to those attending. Both worship & evangelism suffer in man-centeredness.
<b>Unsaved friendly vs. Seeker-driven</b>	According to Romans 3:10-18, there are none who seek God. Though we must show love and concern for the unsaved who attend worship, we must be careful not to design the worship service around their desires, but around God's revealed will. Our role is to bring God's Word and His will to the ears of all listeners.	In the seeker-driven model, the worship service is adjusted to "meet the needs" [better called 'wants'] of the unsaved, making it 'relevant' for unbelievers.  The theology behind this seeker-driven movement teaches that everyone seeks for God, and all we need to do is take obstacles out of an unbeliever's way for them to come to Christ.

<p><b>Gospel Offense</b></p>	<p>The Gospel is inherently offensive: the spotless Lamb of God who had to undergo hell on the cross for totally depraved sinners. We must share the whole counsel of God, even that which is offensive (Acts 20:27). We must also be careful not to add our own personal offensiveness.</p>	<p>Man-centered attempts at worship invariably take out the offense of the Gospel to make it more palatable for so-called seekers. Sermons avoid mention of sin, hell, punishment, total depravity... but the Gospel of salvation has no context apart from our sin causing the shed blood of Christ (Acts 2:36, Heb 9:22c).</p>
<p><b>Entertainment Vs. Worship</b></p>	<p>Worship is done before an audience of One. We are all the participants, and the desire is that God is pleased (Rev. 5:13, Phil 2:10,11). We stand in awe of God, and our affections are stirred, not vice versa. (Acts 2:43).</p>	<p>Having the goal of 'bringing people in as the top priority will inevitably result in pushing the worship service into an appealing entertainment session. Then focus is taken off the true character of God and man's condition and placed, instead, on what the participants will enjoy or feel.</p>
<p><b>Needs Vs. Wants</b></p>	<p>If we focus on what man truly needs, we must understand that our greatest need is for God. When we understand our true need and look to God doing things according to His Word, the outcome will meet the true needs of men. (Matt. 6:33).</p>	<p>In the name of being 'needs-based', the focus actually becomes on what people want. While people's shallow desires are constantly fed, the true needs are left unmet. This approach tends to produce rapid quantitative growth but a lack of qualitative meaningful growth which is far superior.</p>
<p><b>Relevance</b></p>	<p>Our desire is not to be irrelevant, but the truth of God's Word and God's glory must never be compromised by what some people think is relevant.</p>	<p>When sinful man's idea of relevance is the measure of all things, truth is invariably sacrificed. God's Word accurately taught is the greatest of all relevance.</p>
<p><b>Human Worth</b></p>	<p>Human worth is not diminished by God-centeredness. Instead, it is established. When we focus on God who alone has true worth &amp; holds true worth, &amp; realize we are created in His image and for Him, this brings us true worth. (II Samuel 22).</p>	<p>Man has no worth in and of himself, and being man-centered in one's approach to anything is ultimately hollow, valueless, and futile.</p>
<p><b>Spirit &amp; Truth</b></p>	<p>God desires worshippers who will worship Him in Spirit and truth (John 4:24). We must know the majestic, holy God and honor His truth in order to worship Him.</p>	<p>Focus is often on worshipping God 'in the Spirit,' as if that means emotion and with little or no emphasis on the truth. Both issues must be real and active or no actual worship will occur.</p>

**Introduction to Calvinism –**

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**What is Calvinism? -**

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**What is Arminianism?**

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**A Brief History -**

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