

50 Bible Verses Everybody Should Know By Heart

Our “Target” and “Rescue” Verse

Up until about 468 years ago, everybody believed the universe, and the sun, and the planets revolved around the earth. Then, in 1543, Copernicus told folks that the earth was *not* the center of the universe. 50 years later, Galileo said the planets revolved around the sun; and people were so opposed to this idea that they threw him in prison, and kicked him out of the church! The very idea that we were *not* the center of the solar system – if not the entire universe – why, that was *unthinkable!*

God has a very important lesson in all of this: We are not the center of the universe, and everything doesn’t revolve around us! The Bible is very explicit about this: God doesn’t exist to make a big deal out of US; but we exist to make a big deal about GOD. It’s not all about you. Or me. Or any other created person, place, or thing. It’s not about self-promotion, self-preservation, or self-centeredness. It’s all about GOD. (Consider reading *It’s Not About Me* by Max Lucado.)

Here’s our TARGET and RESCUE Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:31

“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

Here’s the TARGET for which we aim in life.

- **Some Word Associations will help us understand.** In the Bible, “Glory” is often associated with substance, weight, a palatable presence, and light.
- **The Sun vs the Moon, and our main “job description”** The sun does *not* shine. It only reflects the light of the moon. Otherwise, it’s dark. In this analogy, the Lord is the “sun”, we only *reflect* the greater light. We are not the point, God is. He’s center stage and spotlight.
- **The reason for everything . . .**
 - **Creation** (*Psalm 19:1*) exists to declare God’s glory.
 - **Redemption** (*Isaiah 43:7*) – God redeems us for His glory. Our salvation is first for Him, not us. It’s the *giver* of the bread that deserves praise, not the receiver!
 - **Consummation / Restoration** (*Habakkuk 2:14; Revelation 19:7; 21:23*) – One day, the whole earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God. That’s the end game of it all.
 - **Why we exist now** (*1 Chronicles 16:24*) is not to “get things” from God (although He gives us all we have), but to declare His glory. When you awoke this AM, it was for one purpose: To declare His glory with your lips and lifestyle.

Here’s the RESCUE this aim gives us.

- **A story of self-glory and its effects** (*Daniel 4:28-33*) Self-glory is insanity!
- **The effects of self-glory on society** (*2 Timothy 3:1-2; James 4:1-6; Zephaniah 2:15*) – What do you call it when each instrument in an orchestra is playing what they want to rather than following the lead of the Conductor? It’s not a symphony! Society’s in a “tune-up” mode, and it doesn’t sound pretty! Self-glory brings devastation and danger, wars and conflicts.
- **What is our default setting in life?** (*Romans 3:23*) The glory of God is the target we continually miss.

Here’s one good way we, by God’s grace, accomplish our main aim.

- **The “2 Corinthians 3:18 Strategy” for accomplishing our memory verse:** Beholding Him (in Scripture) changes us. After Moses *beheld* the glory of God, his face *reflected* that glory (3:7). The brightness he *saw* became the brightness he *became!*