

April 9, 2020

# GLORY ON YOUR HOUSE



ASHFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Get Connected . Grow in your faith . Stay Encouraged

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# GLORY ON YOUR HOUSE

## NEARLY 30 YEARS AGO,

I was introduced to a book written by Jack Hayford titled *Glory on Your House*. Two weeks ago, with this global pandemic as a backdrop, that title came back to me. Though I hadn't thought of it in many years it came across the landscape of my mind with great poignancy for our current time. I shared with some of the staff about the relevance of Hayford's message and we all seemed to agree that this would be a great word to reposition ourselves in this current time of crisis. You see, it is my firm conviction that God wants to use our homes as sanctuaries to shine into our neighborhoods with His presence and His peace. The peace The Lord has given us is something that we have opportunity to distribute to others.

*"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."  
II Corinthians 2:14*

The word Glory or Hebrew rendering "Chabob" is used 375 times in the bible. Chabob refers to the weightiness, worthiness, value and splendor of God!

Glory, the Greek word is *Doxa* carrying the idea of luminous celebrity "let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and **glorify** your father in heaven". His manifest presence goes before before us, in us and marks us as belonging to Him. Moses cried out "show me your glory". We get to be carriers of Glory.

*"To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the GLORY of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of GLORY." Colossians 1:27*

He is the King of glory and we are His host! In our bodies (temples) and in our homes we are called to be His host:

*"Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah"  
Psalms 24:7-10*

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# TIME FOR A HOUSE-CLEANING?

Leviticus 14 gives specific instructions to the Israelites and how to cleanse the house that has been infected by former inhabitants by either physical or spiritual practices. This chapter gives **three steps to purifying the house**. We also can follow these steps for ourselves and the environment that is present in our homes.

**1) Inspections** - in Leviticus a priest must first come and see what disease is present in the house. We also must be open in this time for the Lord to examine our hearts and our homes. We can pray the prayer of Psalms 139 over our environment

*“Lord, search me and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”*

*Psalms 139: 23 & 24*

**2) Removal** - After inspection the things that are removed are the stones that hold the disease and the plaster all around the home. The plaster is at the surface and can be scraped off but the stones

are a part of the very foundation of the home. For a spiritual house cleaning we will need to remove both the things we have hidden behind and the things we have placed our trust in over God.

**3) Replacement** - There is a warning in Luke chapter 11 that again uses the analogy of cleaning a house to speak of spiritual work. It says that if a spirit is cast out it will roam about and then return to the place it was cast from. If it finds that place swept and clean **“it brings seven other spirits more evil than itself and they enter and dwell there”** Luke 11:26 This verse is not to bring fear, but to remind us that we must not only remove what is unwanted but replace what was taken away with what will bring Glory upon our homes. In Leviticus new plaster and new stone is brought in to replace the disease and we must also fill our sanctuaries with truth and love and dedication to our King.

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# JESUS IS THE DOOR TO LIFE

When we celebrate Palm Sunday we are celebrating a great event. As we see Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey and allow the people to praise Him as king, there are many things we can learn. But there is one aspect that is fascinating as it deals with Passover. We know that Passover was only four days away which made the day of the Triumphal Entry the tenth day of the month. We can see the significance of this when we read Exodus 12:3, 5-6, which says,...

**Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house. . . .Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.**

As Jesus was riding in and the people were crying "Hosanna in the highest," unbeknownst to them they were selecting the paschal lamb for

sacrifice; the one and only sacrifice that can take away sin and cause death to pass over us.

Praise God for His willing Lamb!

The feast of Passover is in celebration of death passing over the children of Israel in their exodus from the evil Egyptian empire and pharaoh. The Lord gave these specific instructions about the anointing of the house.

*"And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it."*

*Exodus 12:7*

Without a doubt this was also a prophetic sign of Jesus being strung up on the cross and his blood creating the once and for all sacrifice for man's sin and "death's sting" being removed forevermore! Jesus is the Door to life evermore.

Perhaps this would be a great season of consecration on your house. As you inspect and remove things from your home, you can also mark it with the blood of Christ allowing nothing that is not of God to enter within.

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# JESUS IS THE DOOR TO LIFE

Ashford family go to your front door,  
stand at the threshold with prayer  
anoint your lintel and your door posts  
as a prophetic act declaring: No  
weapon formed against us will  
prosper, sickness and illness will pass  
over this home. For "GLORY is on your  
House!"

In His Strength,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JP' with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Parks  
Senior Pastor  
Ashford Community Church

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# GET CONNECTED

## **Get in a group of ten:**

1. Start with your household
2. Reach out to people you are already connected with in the church or who you think might not know who to reach out to
3. Send an email to *office@ashfordcc.com* so we can get you connect with a group

## **Stay connected with your group:**

1. Have an ongoing group message with texting or GroupMe
2. Use Zoom to do video calls
3. Group phone calls or FaceTime

*We want to hear from you!*

## **Ashford Community Church**

office@ashfordcc.com

www.ashfordhouston.com

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