

**Problem:**

The president, along with the first lady, attempted to summarize Christmas for us all on a recent television program recognizing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “A Charlie Brown Christmas.”

Mrs. Obama:

“For half a century, people of all ages have gathered around the tv to watch Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and the rest of the gang teach us the true meaning of Christmas,”

President Obama chimed in:

“They teach us that tiny trees just need a little love, and that on this holiday we celebrate peace on Earth and goodwill toward all,” he said.

They missed the meaning -

Christmas is about the glory of God - Luke 2:1-14 - it is the Heavenly anthem of Christmas

- (1) GLORY HAS TO DO WITH LIGHT... it is shining, often striking, bedazzling light...  
what is God putting on display?
- (2) (2) GLORY IS HEAVY... it is something that has weight...  
how is it to affect us?
- (3) (3) GLORY IS VISIBLE... it is something you can see; it is meant to be seen  
do you see it?

**Text:****The Glory of the Father**

John 12:27 ¶ “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? **But for this purpose I have come to this hour. (13:1)**

John 12:28 Father, **glorify** your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have **glorified** it, and I will **glorify** it again.”

John 12:29 The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

John 12:30 Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

*I have glorified it and will do it again - both ends of the incarnation - of Christ's work - John 13:31; 17:1-5  
(27) for this purpose i have come to this hour - gen 22:1-14 -> (yehova yir eh -> The Lord will be seen)  
seen in the temple-> 2 Chron 3:1*

*seen in the sacrifice ->2 Chron 7:5*

*John 19:16-19 (peak of Moriah)*

*seen in the gift - John 3:16 - **the Father is glorified in His gift***

**The Glory of the Son**

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

John 12:32 And I, **when I am lifted up** from the earth, will draw all (kinds of) people to myself.”

John 12:33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

John 12:34 So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. **How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?**”

John 12:35 So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going.

John 12:36 While you have the light, **believe in the light**, that you may become sons of light.”

¶ When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

John 12:37 Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,

John 12:38 so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,

and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

John 12:39 ¶ Therefore they could not believe. (**free but fallen wills**) For again Isaiah said,

John 12:40 ¶ “He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their heart,  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and understand with their heart, and turn,  
and I would heal them.”

John 12:41 ¶ **Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.**

John 12:42 Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue;

John 12:43 for **they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.**

*who is this Son of Man?*

*(32, 34) when i am lifted up -john 3:12-15 - lifted up -> (num 21:5-9)*

*(35-40) The glory of the incarnation - John 1:1-14 -shining for all who will believe*

*Their unbelief does not diminish His glory - (Jn 1:5)*

*A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word, 'darkness' on the walls of his cell. - C.S. Lewis*

*(41) Isaiah saw it - Isaiah saw His glory - Isaiah 6:1-5; 52:13-53:12*

*(43) do you? -John 12:20-26 (glory in the descent); phil 2:1-11*

***the Son is glorified in His humility***

### **The Glory of the Spirit**

John 12:44 ¶ And Jesus cried out and said, “**Whoever** believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me.

John 12:45 And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.

John 12:46 **I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.**

John 12:47 If **anyone** hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

John 12:48 The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.

John 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

John 12:50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

*whoever - John 1:9-13; 3:5-8 - the spirit is who is behind this belief - no race can limit His work*

***- the Spirit is glorified in His invitation to all kinds of people***

*- John 12:32 -(came after the Greeks came)*

### **Main Idea:**

God’s glory is not merely a part of Christmas-  
it is the point of Christmas

### **Implication:** Jn 12:46

Jesus is the light of Christmas shining forth the glory of  
the Father’s gift  
the Son’s humility  
the Spirit’s invitation

### **Application:**

This Christmas His light still shines:

stand in awe of the Father’s gift  
strive to practice the Son’s humility  
seek to spread the Spirit’s invitation

Jn 12:46 -The light of Christmas is shining- don’t remain in darkness