

Let's Magnify the Lord!

Psalm 34:3— *O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.* Corporate exaltation of God.

The exhortation to magnify the Lord is mentioned in Psalms 34:3; 35:27; 40:16; **70:4**. When God repeats a phrase such as this four times, it is because God considers it very important!

The context of this statement surrounds the events of 1 Samuel 21 and 22. It is a prayer of David during a desperate and dangerous time when he was being pursued by his enemies and persecuted by King Saul.

Those who oppose David say, “*Aha! Aha!*” (Ps. 70:3). David fires back this answer— “*Let God be magnified!*” (70:4). David realized, it was not about him, but about the God he loved and served!

When adversity comes knocking at our door we should answer likewise, “*Let God be magnified!*” It is not about us! It is about the Lord. May He be magnified in all the circumstances of our lives!

I. **The MEANING of the statement.**

A. The **PLEA** to affirm (“*LET God be magnified.*”).

➡ David is affirming this is something that needs to be proclaimed. It is worthy of the God who created the universe and everything in it—“*LET God be magnified.*”

B. The **PERSON** we magnify.

1. We do not magnify ourselves... not a singer... not a preacher... not a pope... not a church. We brag on Jesus! If there is anything in us worth magnifying it is only the Lord in us. Apart from His working in us, there is nothing to magnify.
2. Our problem is we have such puny, microscopic ideas about God. We shrink Him down to our size OR we make Him just a little bit bigger than ourselves.
3. We need to think great thoughts of God. We need to think of God in terms of all the suns and stars of space, which are mere pebbles under His feet.

4. He is the most High... He is infinite... He is eternal... He is Sovereign... He is faithful... He is Holy... He alone is God!

Magnification always glorifies God. We can take anything man has made, put in under a microscope, magnify it, and its defects and imperfections are exposed. But put the works of God under a microscope, magnify them, and more and more wonders will be seen.

C. A **PROCLAMATION** to sustain (“...say *continually*...”).

1. Our magnification of God must never cease! Say it continually! ***Let God be magnified*** — day and night... in good times and bad times... in sickness and in health... at work and play— “May Jesus Christ Be Praised”
2. The cherubim and seraphim continually cry, “*Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Hosts!*” Why don’t they ever stop? Because it is their chief business and their greatest delight! So should it be with us—our end and aim should be to glorify him in all that we do!— *Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.* (1 Cor. 10:31).
3. Sadly for many, their zeal rises and falls like a barometer. One day they are up, the next they are down. That should not matter—God never changes— ***Let God be magnified!***

II. The MESSENGERS of the statement.

- Who is David exhorting?
- A. Those who have **sought** the Lord (“*Let all those that seek thee...*”). Paul told the philosophers on Mars’ Hill, “*That they should SEEK THE LORD, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us*” (Acts 17:27).
 - B. Those who **rejoice and are glad** in the Lord (“...*rejoice and be glad in thee...*”).
 - C. Those who **love** God’s salvation (“...*such as love thy salvation...*”)

They **sought** the Lord... they were **glad** they found the Lord... and they **love being saved** by the Lord! "*Let God be magnified*" should be the **mark** and **motto** of all who love God's salvation.

- Do you love the fact that God has saved you from an eternity in hell? Then say it loud and long, "*Let God be magnified!*"
- The more you know of God's salvation the more you will love it, and the more you love it the more you will realize the impulse to say continually, "*Let God be magnified.*"

III. **The MANIFESTATION of the statement.** How is God magnified?

- The word "*magnified*" means "to make large or great; more visible." (like a magnifying glass).
- Obviously you cannot make God greater than He already is—but you can magnify Him in your life before others by demonstrating how He is workings through you.

ILLUS: Little girl said to her pastor: "If God is as big as you say, and if He lives in your heart, then He should be poking out!" Amen! People should see the Lord "poking out" in our lives.

- We who have been saved are God's magnifying glass to the world... to lost people... to people who need to see God.
 - People need to be able to look through us, and see the Lord! We need to make God appear GREAT and more VISIBLE! They don't need to see us, but God magnified in and through us— "*Let God be magnified!*"
- A. God is magnified as His Word is magnified (Ps. 138:2).
1. We are **converted** by the Word (Ps. 19:7).
 2. We are **cleansed** by the Word (John 15:3). ILLUS. of Pastor's Blue's grandfather asking him to fetch water from a creek in a basket.
 3. We are **comforted** by the Word (1 Thess. 4:16-18).

As you magnify God's Word, He is magnified!

- B. God is magnified when the name of Christ is magnified (Acts 19:17). Lift up the name of Jesus and magnify God!

- C. God is magnified in the body of a Christian by life and death (Phil. 1:20-21). Paul was in jail when he wrote Philippians. Yet it is called “the JOY book.” His response to trials magnified the Lord. How you respond to the trials in your life will determine if God is magnified or diminished by your testimony.
- D. God is magnified when Jesus is recognized as Savior (Luke 1:30-35, 46-47). How? Because only He can save you. If you could save yourself through good works, you would be the one magnified. If a church could save you, the church would be magnified. Since Jesus Christ is the only one who can save a soul, He is the one magnified.

Every time someone trusts Christ as Savior it magnifies God.

SUMMATION: John the Baptist said, “*He must INCREASE, I must DECREASE.*” We need to make the Lord the biggest thing in our life. As He gets bigger, we get smaller.

How big is the Lord in your life? He should be the BIGGEST thing about you and everyone should recognize it. Everything in our life— Every action... Every conversation... Every relationship... Every prayer... Every purchase... should shout “*LET GOD BE MAGNIFIED.*”

When people look at you, what do they see? Do they see the Lord magnified?

Let’s greet each new day with this question: What can I do to magnify the Lord today (at school... workplace... at home... at church?)

*“Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, **Let God be magnified.**”—Ps. 70:4*