

“To God Be the Glory” by Fannie Crosby

First published in 1875. Popular in England. Used in a Billy Graham crusade in Nashville, TN in 1954 and grew in popularity in the U.S. after that.

ILLY: Frosted Flakes. They're Grrrreat! [Show old commercial]

Now, I'm thinking of something else that's great also. But what I have in my mind now is beyond great ... I'm thinking of something excellent. Awesome. Grand. Outstanding. Stupendous. Amazing. Remarkable. Superlative. Glorious. Paramount. Renowned. Fantastic.

Today's song is about the Greatness of God. “To God be the Glory” reminds us just how marvelous God truly is. As we look at this song we see a portrait of God so compelling that it requires action, response on our part. Listen to this song' refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

Because God is so Grrrreat we respond by

- praising Him.
- hearing His voice.
- rejoicing.
- come in faith to God through Jesus the Son,
- and finally, give God Glory!

We'll honestly, what's so great about God anyway? This song reminds us of THREE great things about our faith in God:

Three Great Reasons to Give God Glory

1. A Great Sacrifice!

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

2 Corinthians 5:21, For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2. A Great Promise!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Romans 10:9-10, If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

3. A Great Future!

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Philippians 1:20-24, ... And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. ²¹ For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. ²² But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. ²³ I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. ²⁴ But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.

Finally ... what does it mean to give God "Glory"? It means to reorganize your life so that God gets your attention. Giving God glory means focusing on Him most of all. You make knowing Him and growing in your faith a key priority of life.

A closing prayer ... "Dear God, we give You glory. You're great! Our attention is Yours. Our life's focus is more and more centered upon Your plan and purpose for our lives. God, You have done great things already, and we are eager to see what great things You have yet to unfold in our lives. In Jesus' name, amen."