

## Title: Surrounded In Glory

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 12/7/25

Well, let me pray over the word. Father, we thank you that you have given us ears to hear and eyes to see and a heart that will understand. We, thank you for opening our understanding to what you're saying this morning. We thank you for manifesting your presence to us all. We love you Lord. In Jesus' name, amen.

We believe in God, the Father, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son, Son of God, the Lamb of God, who came to take away the sins of the world, and great Holy Spirit, who is God and Lord, and the fullness and the fullness and the fullness of Holy Ghost, amen. We believe that when we gather in His name, He is with us. Scripture says if two or three of you are gathered, He is there in your midst. So, when you are in your home, as you go along the way, on a vacation, or wherever you may be, when you're with two or three, He is there. One makes me and Jesus makes two. Scripture says you must be born again. What a delight to know that God sent Jesus so that we could be saved. We honor the blood of Jesus and the name of Jesus. He is the only way that we can be saved. Thank you, Jesus, that He has given us eternal life.

You know, everybody has their own journey, but honestly, I believe that we know that the Spirit of God is moving and hovering over all of His creation. That includes, as we will read today, as soon as you have been conceived in your mother's womb. The Holy Spirit is already hovering over you. It is God who formed us and created us and fashioned us, and He begins that journey even there. He knows the great destiny, purposes and plans He has for us. That's comforting. We are not mistakes. Everyone is born with purpose and identity, but in this journey of life, we have a right and a choice to choose to believe that God sent Jesus to save us. He gives us a free will to choose. My God, I'm so thankful I said, "Yes." How about you? If you don't know Him yet, we invite you to come to know Him today. He is so good and so glorious to us.

We love to worship. We know that we love to host His presence. The Father inhabits our praises as we go along the way, as we're driving, as we're working throughout the week. Wherever we're at in our homes or on the floor worshiping God, He is there. He is with us, and we're giving Him our highest praise for a reason. The Spirit of God will manifest in these glorious sessions of time, whether you're just worshiping Him, reading the Word, or glorifying His name. In all that high praise and worship, the Father is being glorified. We can only imagine, we'll talk about that soon, what it looks like in Heaven, when we're all before the throne of grace. The worship continues on in Heaven. We get to start that today, amen. If you're bored with worship now, you better get ready for Heaven, because it's all about Him.

I have shared this testimony before. I was raised in church and but never really encountered the Lord. One of our first times that I remember really encountering Him was in worship. Amber was a baby at that time. Jeff and I had just been born again and were radically on fire. We were in this home with a bunch of other believers. There was one *guy* playing guitar, and all of us were singing and worshiping God, when the Spirit of God just fell on me. He played guitar, while others were singing with all their heart to God. I don't even remember what was being sung, but the Spirit of God fell on me during that time, and I just wept in the presence of the Lord. I just wept. I had already been saved, but the Lord was ministering to me, amen. The guitar player could have stopped. He could have told me or asked me to leave the room. He could have stopped and went on to the next thing. But he continued. I don't know how long

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that man played the guitar, but he allowed the Spirit of God to move on me. Nothing has changed since then, because you go from glory to glory. How long do you have to be in His presence? No matter how your first touch came, remember it, and treasure it. It's a testimony, and you will share that with others. You know when you were convicted. Whether you were 5, 10, 20, or 70, it doesn't matter. The Lord will move upon the people, while we're worshipping Him and praising Him. He is right here in our midst. I wish we could see the movie of what it really looks like when we come together in the spirit realm. What it really looks like and how Heaven is so with us, amen.

I encourage you. God doesn't just deserve our praise and worship, but it is our honor. It is our duty. It is our call. It's our purpose in life, versus just going to church and doing the praise songs and going on about our business. Praise and worship is our lifestyle. Yes, amen. God is so good to us, and He is with us. Why gather if He's not here? But when we gather, He's here, always, always.

Psalms 139:7-12 NKJV

What a beautiful promise and revelation that the Holy Spirit gave. "Where can we go from Holy Spirit? Where can we flee from Your presence?" Because, we were all born into sin. We were born separated from God, and we didn't even have it in our hearts to seek Him. We didn't even have it in our being to know the truth until the Spirit of God comes in our journey and reveals the truth. He reveals the Word of God to us. We were born in sin, dead, and separated from God. You understand, there was no hope, because sin had come into the world. Mankind had fallen into sin from generation to generation. Yet, this is the glorious good news of what it looks like, in what Jesus Christ has provided for.

"Where can we go from your Spirit?" Were you hidden in your mother's womb and He didn't see you? Were you born and He went, "Oh, I didn't know that child came forth." For all of our journey, it is the Spirit of God that is always working to bring us revelation of God and of Jesus Christ, the Son. It is the Holy Spirit. That's why we honor Him as Lord. He's not left out of the Godhead. You understand, if you leave Him out of the Godhead, you have a dead religion and a cult. But, we have a Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. All are One, with different roles and functions, and Lord and God. Isn't that amazing? The Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God, overcomes all spirits of error and antichrist. The Spirit, the Sovereign Lord, the presence of God, is with us from the womb. He created us and formed us in the womb. "Where can I go from your presence?" As soon as we're conceived, God Almighty breathed, and He says, "Be."

You understand, the whole journey on this planet is to know Him? It's all about knowing Him. It's not about good works. It's not about what you do. It's not about your job. It's not about your family. It's about knowing the Lord. Oh my goodness, we don't want to hear Jesus say, as you read in Matthew chapter seven, "Many in that day will call Me, 'Lord, Lord.'" He says, "I never knew you. Depart from Me, you workers of iniquity." That's what got me born again, because going to church wasn't good enough. I had to meet my Maker. I had to make Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior. He had opened the door for me to step into the glory of God. That's the way this looks. We go from glory to glory to glory, because we're all not where we first started. We're all growing and maturing. Hallelujah!

"Where can I go from your Spirit?" That is a big statement. "Where can I flee from your presence? If I go to Heaven, you're there. If I make my bed in hell. You're there. "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there, your hand shall lead me. Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, surely, the darkness shall fall on me, even the night will be light about me." That's what God does. He is light. God is light. There is no darkness in Him. The truth is light, and we are carriers of light. Light comes and whoosh, we're

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born again. Light overtakes the darkness as soon as we know the Lord. My God, "But the night shines as the day." "The darkness and light are both alike to you." God is over all. He's not challenged. He knows all things, and He knows you deeply.

I'm wanting to focus over and over on the understanding of the omnipotence of God, and the presence of God. That, "His nearness is my good." That every time, in the morning, through the night, we have 24 hours in a day, right? The Lord is near, that He's here. You don't have to wait to feel His presence with A, B and C. It's just a matter of us coming to revelation knowledge that, "Oh, wait a minute, He's with me. He's in me. I've been filled and baptized in the Holy Ghost and fire. I'm not alone. He'll never leave me, fail me, or forsake me. I am here. He is here. He is here. I am here with Him." It is an acknowledging, a recognizing of God's presence.

Can you imagine, Jesus Christ comes out of the door and walks up and stands here beside me, and I totally ignore Him? God chooses to come and manifest, and I ignore Him and go about my business. You understand how rude it would be? But you understand, He's here. He's with you. He's with us even in our darkest hour. I'm just saying, it's not dark to Him. Even in our darkest, most difficult trials, burdens or sicknesses or troubles, it's not dark to Him. It's not too dark for Him. He is light. "Where can you go from His presence? Where can you go from His Spirit?"

Getting revelation knowledge of the presence of God is everything. It changes your life when you know and recognize, "Oh, that is Holy Spirit speaking to me. That is God talking to me. I feel Him right now. I feel Him on my skin. I feel Him. I feel my heart racing. My mind is thinking on Him right now." You know, as you go along the way, and all of a sudden this God thought comes. The devil didn't give that to you. The Holy Ghost gave you that thought. When you thought of some loved one you've been praying for and you saw them healed. That wasn't from the devil, that was from God Almighty, who put that seed in your heart. You can pray and call those things forth and go pray for them.

These thoughts, "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?" This is forever. It's eternal life. That's it. It's eternal life. That's what the scripture says. If I believe in Him, I have eternal life, and it starts now. I don't have to wait to get to Heaven to feel Him. I don't have to wait till I go to Heaven to get to know Him. I don't have to wait to get to Heaven to be healed. He can heal me now. He still heals, He still delivers, and He still casts out demons. He still raises you up. He gives us peace. He restores our soul. Jesus Christ died for all of these things. He died for all of these things. On the beautiful cross, He was wounded and pierced through for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. He was chastised, and He was punished for our whole peace. He bore our iniquity. He carried our shame. The sacrifice is amazing, and by His stripes, we've been healed.

Everything that Jesus Christ went through was to bring us into His presence. Not to go to church, not to do good works, but it's to know Him. We know Him by this. If we do the things that He says of us, there is fruit. When you know Him, you obey, truth. Even in a radical encounter with God, you can come out of darkness and be in light overnight. There is a journey of love that begins. It's all about love. What a good God we serve, and He loves us so much. He loves us so much. You're not alone, and you've not been forgotten, and you're not overlooked, and He has a great plan and purpose for all of us.

Isaiah 40:13-14 LSB

"Who has encompassed the Spirit of Yahweh, or as His counselor, has informed Him? With whom did He take counsel and who gave Him understanding? Who taught Him in the path of justice, and taught Him knowledge, and made Him know the way of understanding?"

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Isaiah 40:13 NKJV

“Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, or, as His counselor, has taught Him?”

Isaiah 40:13 NLT

“Who is able to advise the Spirit of the Lord? Who knows enough to give Him advice or teach Him?”

Isaiah 40:13 ESV

“Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord? What man shows Him His counsel?”

Now, all of a sudden, you just felt the omnipresence of the Spirit and His authority and His lordship. The Scripture testifies all through the word of the glory of God that we serve. The Lord God, Most High God, Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. The Father, and the Spirit, and Jesus are One. The Word of God is being manifested to us so that we can know Him. This shows you authority in the Kingdom, and it lines you up really quick. It lines you up real quick in the fear of the Lord. “Who has encompassed the Spirit of Yahweh, or as His counselor has informed Him?”

You see, we have the privilege and right through Jesus Christ, to come into this relationship with the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, and into the family of God. Then this same Spirit starts to minister to us and bring revelation of who our God is. Who's teaching who? He's teaching us? Who are we learning from? We're learning from the Lord. That's why we read the Bible. Yes, we read the Bible. The Bible is truth, the word of God. In the quiet place He reveals Himself. The Spirit will speak the scripture to you, even if you didn't have it open, because that's the Spirit of Yahweh. That is the Spirit of the Living God, amen. Who can advise Him? Who's going to give Him advice or teach Him? We are submitted, and yet we are called into this glorious relationship. Isn't that amazing that God would take us out of the dirt, lost as a *sinner*, bring us into the family, entrust to us and allow the Holy Spirit to live in us? That is amazing. That is miraculous. This is the glorious gospel. We have this opportunity to return to God, through our beloved, Jesus.

It says in scripture, “Where can you go from His spirit?” We have to acknowledge and always know and be aware of His presence all the time. If you want to know that more, just say, “Lord, I want to know more of your presence. I want to see you, hear you, feel you. Talk to me. Remove every veil. I want to know you. I know you're here.” In worship, I just step up and poof, I'm there. I open the word, and there He is. You understand that as you're in prayer, there He is. That's the truth. It is a relationship. It's not a duty. But, there is a duty in following God.

John 14:17 NKJV

Jesus Christ said this, “The Spirit of Truth,” which is Holy Spirit, “whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

My goodness, “the Spirit of Truth, Holy Spirit, whom the world cannot receive.” While we were in the world, we had no fellowship with Him until we believed the glorious gospel. The Spirit of God came to us and removed the veil, and we had a choice. We said, “yes.” At that moment, the Spirit of Truth came inside of us. He says, “He will dwell with you and be in you.” He's not distant. This is close. These are Jesus's words. “Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?” That's what it's all about.

John 15:26 NKJV

“But when the Helper,” which is Holy Spirit, “comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father.” This is Jesus saying, “the Spirit of Truth, who proceeds from the Father, He's going to testify of

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Me.” Father, Son and Holy Ghost right there are working together to get us to their home. He is going to take up His home in us. “Where can I go from His Spirit,” was written before Jesus Christ went to the cross. But, the Spirit of God wrote it. The man, David was writing about what the Spirit was showing him. What a mystery! One day, there will be a greater truth. “When the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.”

#### John 16:13 NKJV

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth has come,” it gets better. “He will guide you into all truth.” Wow. “He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears, He will speak, and He will tell you of things to come.”

“He, the Spirit of Truth, He will guide you into all truth.” Isn't that glorious? He didn't say, “a little.” He said, “He will guide you into all truth. He will guide you into all truth.” Wherever we don't know the truth, the Spirit of God is working to reveal the truth to us. Wherever we're lacking, the Spirit of God is working to provide. Wherever we're ignorant, He's working to give us knowledge.

You know, I didn't understand what was happening to me in that living room with other believers and a guy strumming a guitar and praising God. But, Somebody fell on me. Okay? Somebody encompassed me. Somebody fell and the cloud of His presence came upon me. My heart broke. I worshiped, and I cried, and cried. I cried more than I sang. You understand? It's that. “Where can you go from His presence?” That was just the beginning, and the journey is not over. It's not the end. It's ongoing. “He's going to guide us into all truth.” I lay hold of that. I pray these scriptures every week, because I decree these things. It's about my relationship with the Father, Jesus Christ, great Holy Ghost and the word of God. Say, “Amen.” “Who has encompassed the Spirit of Yahweh, or as His counselor has informed Him?”

#### Luke 24:49 NKJV

This is a promise from Jesus in fast version. He said, “Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you, but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” This is after the cross of Jesus, and He's about to go back to Heaven. He saw the plan of the Father. He knew the promise of the Father would come. He tells them, okay, here's what it's going to look like. You're going to be endued with power from on high. You are going to receive the power of the Spirit of Yahweh. You are going to receive the power of the Spirit of the Lord. You are going to be baptized. Not just saved and born again in the Spirit, but filled to overflowing. “Be being filled with the Spirit of God all of your days, as long as it's called today.” Your heart says, “Yes, Lord.” Yes, that's what it looks like. Jesus, says, “The promise of My Father, the promise of My Father.” That shows me it was in the Father's heart for us to believe in the Son, to receive the Spirit, and be filled to overflowing with power from on high. Why? To know Him, then, because of that empowerment, we have been commissioned with Jesus to go into all the world and preach this gospel. Truth. Here you go. It's easier to go in the power of the Holy Ghost, truth. We're surrounded by His glory, now. Say, “Now.”

#### Acts 2:1-4 NKJV

This is what Jesus had prophesied of, and you can read it in context. I'm going to read a few verses. It says, “When the day of Pentecost had fully come. They were all with one accord in one place, and suddenly there came a sound from Heaven as of a rushing, mighty wind. It filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

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That is a heavenly language that the Spirit of God gives us. It was supernatural. This is the fulfillment in Acts two and four and all the book of Acts that He came, and He poured out the promise and baptized those believers, those apostles, in the Holy Ghost and fire. The same Spirit of, "Who has encompassed the Spirit of Yahweh, or as His counsel has informed Him? With whom did He take counsel and who gave Him understanding? Who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge and made Him know the way of understanding? Who's directed the Spirit of the Lord? Who's able to advise the Spirit of the Lord? Who's measured the Spirit of the Lord?"

At this moment, He is poured out in fullness to launch and birth the Church of the Living God. That, in His house, the Spirit would have the preeminence. That the power of Jesus would have the manifestation power and preeminence in His flock. That the presence of God would not be some distant thing, but here, now, today, while it's called today. Today, this nearness is my good. This presence is here right now, and you go from glory to glory, to glory to glory. The more you know Him, the lower you go. He lifts you up higher. Yes, lifted up on wings of eagles.

Heaven is our future. We acknowledge this, and we know that. Jesus told us to pray the Lord's prayer, "Father, your Kingdom come. Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven," right? Okay, that's glorious. Well, this is what it looks like. This is the journey of how it's walked out. Heaven invades me. Heaven's in me. I'm in Him. We're here. But, there is a real eternal place called Heaven. Hallelujah.

Do y'all remember the song, "I Can Only Imagine," by Mercy Me? Most people have heard it. That's such a glorious song. I'm going to read *some* of the lyrics. I want you to listen to this.

"I can only imagine what it will be like when I walk by your side," meaning, God.  
I can only imagine what my eyes will see when your face is before me. I can only imagine.  
Surrounded by your glory. What will my heart feel? Will I dance for you, Jesus?  
Or in awe of you be still? Will I stand in your presence or to my knees, will I fall?  
Will I sing hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all? I can only imagine. I can only imagine.  
I can only imagine when that day comes, and I find myself standing in the sun.  
I can only imagine when all I will do is forever, forever worship you. I can only imagine."

These songs are so glorious, because they were inspired by Holy Spirit. This beautiful song comforts the believer to know that there is eternal life. That there's Heaven for us to go to if we should perish in this life. That when we die, we go to Heaven, correct? It's better than hell. It encourages the believer and it gives you hope. The Lord is saying, "I'm surrounding you, now. I am the glory and the lifter of your head." He wants the believers to know the presence, now. I don't want to be shocked when I get to Heaven. You understand?

He has provided a way, through Jesus Christ's atonement, to have fellowship and to know God, now. Recognizing that He's with us, now. That He's with you, and He loves you. You're surrounded by His glory. This omnipotent God, right now, has chosen to put the Spirit in us. Scripture has declared it. I bring the Word for a reason, because that's what opens up the heart to know and believe what the Spirit of grace is doing in us. "Surrounded by Your glory, what will my heart feel? Will I dance for you, Jesus? Or in awe of you be still." Can I stand? Will I fall? Do I speak? What do I do? Because right now, "the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Repent."

Yes, now, Heaven is now in you, in the believer, with us. The Spirit of truth here, now, every time, every morning, through the night, 24 hours a day. "Where can I go from your presence? Where can I flee from your Spirit?" You understand that is the labor of love. That the Spirit is constantly working to bring the believer into encounter, into truth, and to not believe the lie anymore, that you're alone. But, that God is with you. You are surrounded by His glory.

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I want to know that. Whether you get goose bumps or not, you know it. You understand? Whether an angel comes to you or not, you know in Whom you believe, and the word has grounded you and rooted you. I mean, my God, who's going to tell the Spirit of God what to do? You understand? He's Lord. We just acknowledge Him. How rude it would be if someone comes to me to talk to me, and I don't even acknowledge that they're there. It's rude. But as humans, you do that.

These are beautiful lyrics of what it will be like when we get there. May I change it to, now? May we look at it differently? To, "now," and that we're expectant. "Now," yes, your expectancy is everything you know. Believing is everything. When you know in Whom you believe, there's truth and there's peace. When you're still searching, you're in hope to find out something. But what revelation, to know that this is really reality. This is more real than anything else. That I've been born again from above, through the blood of Jesus and through His sacrifice. I am His, and He is mine. In this journey, every day is a new day. Wake up with expectation. Look forward to it, no matter what it looks like, right? Acknowledge Him first. Put Him first. Let Him be Lord of all. Acknowledge that He is here. Not just when you go to church or your cell groups or your Bible studies or special conferences, right? It's about a personal relationship with all of us surrounded by the glory, standing in the presence, singing, and worshiping.

What does it look like? What does it feel like? People have said for a long time, "Well, we don't live by our feelings." Well, we better have feelings, because God gave us all feelings. We have a soul, and we have a mind, will and emotion. He made us in our bodies to encounter Him, to behold His glory. If that was not the case, when we got born again, we would already be dead, because of who He is. But, He made us a temple. He said, "You're the temple of the Holy Ghost. I'm going to come live in the temple. I made your spirit, soul and body, mind, will, and emotions to be able to hold My presence." Isn't that glorious?

Are you serious? This is the same flesh, dude. Okay, I was born in sin. There is a resurrection of the body coming, but the spirit is born again. The place where the glory of God dwells is perfect. Your Spirit is perfect with Jesus, and the soul is being transformed and renewed. The mind, will and emotion, and the body, is lining up and choosing to submit and praise the Lord. But you have to see, this is what we labor with. The saint is constantly overcoming the fear, the religion, the dead works, and the "I'm bored," all right? "I have to," versus "I want to," be the first one there. These little ones we love are watching. We are trying to raise our little babies up praising the Lord and worshiping. If that doesn't change your life, I don't know what would.

How do they know to worship? They're watching us, right? Getting up, checking in, coming in, and not sitting back, drinking our coffee while we're praising. You understand, it's not a show, right? You actually choose to enter the glory of God in your closet or while you drive. You've probably seen me and you've seen others while you're driving. Like me, they're praising God while driving. Praying in tongues, praying, decreeing, and warring while you drive. Might as well make driving across the city worth it. You pull up to the stoplight and you look over and you look again, wow. Well, that's what they're saying about you. Wow. If I drive up and I see another believer praising, I know what they're doing. You know when there's praise going on next to you, and you're one of those crazies. No matter where you go, you find yourself hosting that presence as you go along the way. He's more real now, and the invitation is to know Him more and more, now.

I'll never stop talking about this. If you get tired of it, you're going to really be in trouble in Heaven, because Heaven is here. Heaven is now. Heaven is moving in, and we host His presence. That's what changes us. In Jesus Christ, we are surrounded, now, in the glory of God. We are surrounded by His glory. Okay, surrounded by Your glory. We're surrounded by the glory. Now, say, "Now." I believe it, right. We are filled, now. We are enveloped, now.

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We are encompassed, now. We are adopted, now. It's about life, now. That's why I said, "Today, if you hear His voice, don't harden your heart." Truth.

Romans 15:13 TPT

"Now may God, the fountain of hope, fill you to overflowing with uncontainable joy and perfect peace as you trust in Him. And may the power of the Holy Spirit continually surround your life with His super-abundance until you radiate with hope!"

You're glowing, beloved! The Light has come, amen. "Where can I go from His presence? Where can I go from His Spirit?" You see the increase of His Kingdom in us today. The call is, "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you." But, it was really God who drew near first.

Let's stand up and honor His words today. I pray you be blessed and receive them with great joy. If you need prayer for anything, we will pray for you up here.

"Father, we acknowledge your presence. We love you, Lord. We love you. We love you. We know that we're surrounded by your glory now and in the age to come. For all eternity, we are yours. Thank you for the great seal of Holy Spirit who seals all these words. We thank you, Jesus, for what you did for us, and how you came to bring us home. We love you for being with us now, and we love the home you're preparing for us then. Oh, "We can only imagine." But I pray that will become reality today. In Jesus' name, amen. Amen.