

An aerial photograph of Prague, Czech Republic, taken during the golden hour of sunset. The Vltava River flows through the center of the image, reflecting the warm orange and yellow light of the sky. Several bridges span the river, including the prominent Charles Bridge in the foreground. The city's architecture is visible, featuring red-tiled roofs, historic buildings, and a large church with a green dome on the left. The text "WELCOME to the International Baptist Church of Prague" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the upper half of the image.

WELCOME to the International Baptist Church of Prague

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2020

A scenic landscape featuring a range of rugged, snow-capped mountains in the background. In the middle ground, a dense forest of dark green trees lines the shore of a calm lake. The lake's surface is perfectly still, creating a clear reflection of the mountains and the forest above. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The word "SERMON" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, bold, yellow sans-serif font.

SERMON



ELISHA

the Miracle Prophet

2 Kings 3

“Elisha and the Moabites”

ELISHA the STORY so far: 1 Kings 19 + 2 Kings 2



1. Elisha was willing to serve - 1 Kings 19:21

Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant.

2. Elisha persisted – 2 Kings 2:2,4,6

‘As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you.’

3. Elisha received God’s power – 2 Kings 2:9

‘Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit.’

4. Elisha demonstrated God’s power – 2 Kings 2:14

‘He took the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and struck the water with it... it divided to the right and to the left...’

BAD KING, GOOD KING 3:1-12

Bad King Joram of Israel - 3:1-3

[Joram] did evil in the eyes of the Lord, but not as his father and mother had done... he clung to the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit.

KINGS OF ISRAEL	REIGN	DATE
Jeroboam	22 years	930-909 BC
Nadab	2 years	909-908 BC
Baasha	24 years	908-886 BC
Elah	2 years	886-885 BC
Zimri	7 days	885 BC
Omri	12 years	885-874* BC
Ahab	22 years	874-853 BC
Ahaziah	2 years	853-852 BC
Joram (Jehoram)	12 years	852-841 BC

BAD KING, GOOD KING 3:1-12

Joram's War against Moab – 3:4-6, 8



Now Mesha king of Moab raised sheep, and he had to pay the king of Israel a tribute of a 100,000 lambs and the wool of a 100,000 rams. But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel...

‘By what route shall we attack?’ [Jehoshaphat] asked. ‘Through the Desert of Edom,’ [Joram] answered.

Joram's End - 2 Kings 9:21-24

Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah rode out, each in his own chariot, to meet Jehu. They met him at the plot of ground that had belonged to Naboth the Jezreelite.

When Joram saw Jehu he asked, 'Have you come in peace, Jehu?' 'How can there be peace,' Jehu replied, 'as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?'

Joram turned about and fled, calling out to Ahaziah, 'Treachery, Ahaziah!' Then Jehu drew his bow and shot Joram between the shoulders. The arrow pierced his heart and he slumped down in his chariot.

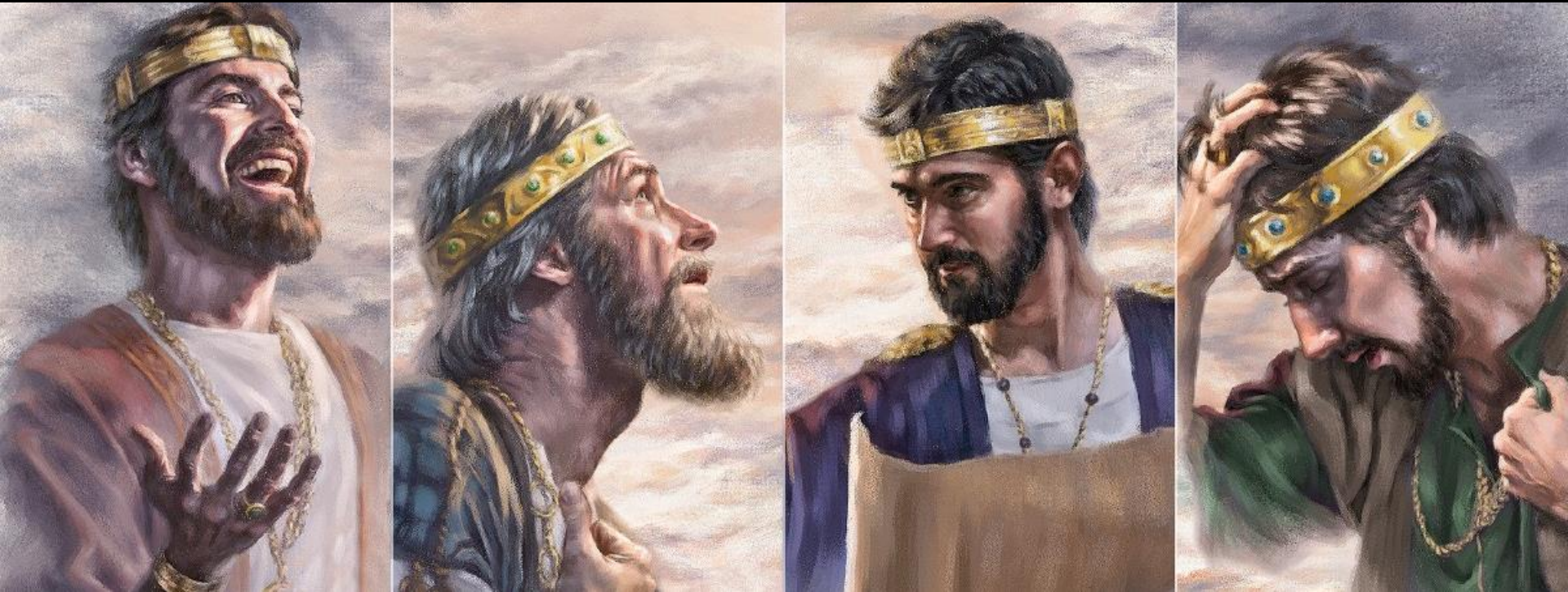


BAD KING, GOOD KING! 3:1-12

Good King Jehoshaphat had a weakness 3:7-9

[Joram] also sent this message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: 'The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?'

'I will go with you,' he replied. 'I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.'



BAD KING, GOOD KING! 3:1-12

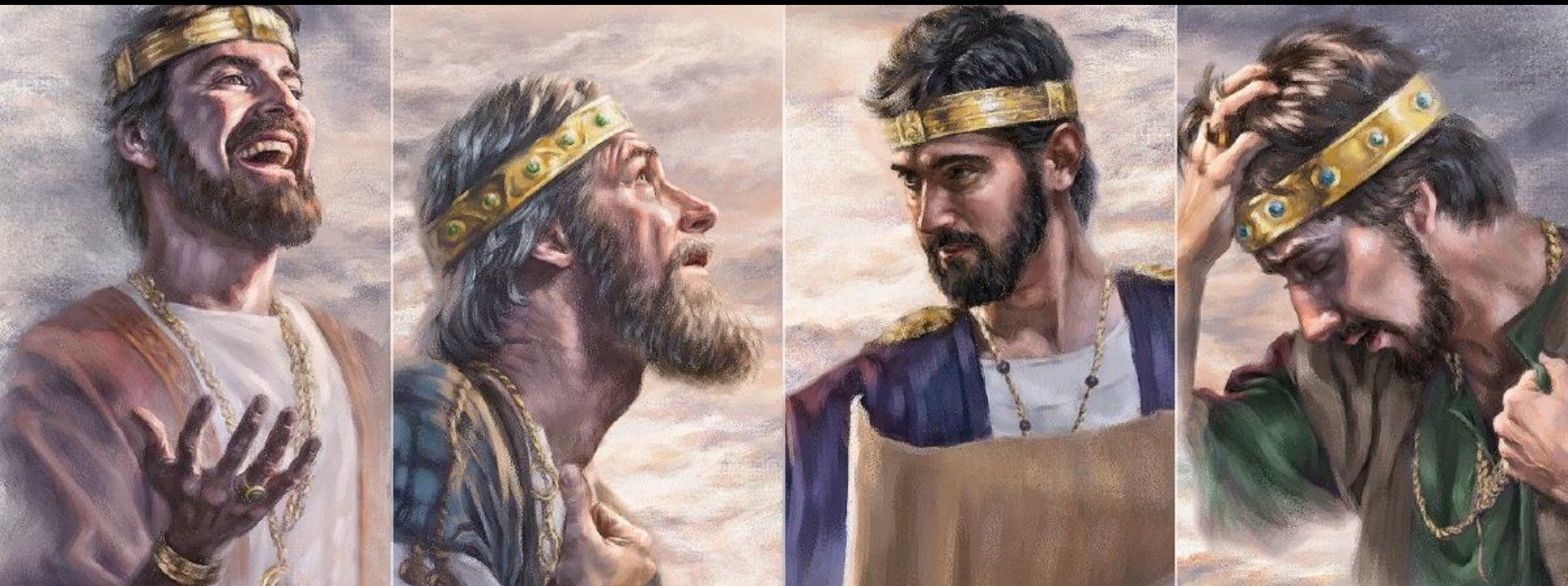
Jehoshaphat had spiritual awareness – 3:10-12

But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not a prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of the LORD by him?" And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, who used to pour water on the hands of Elijah." ¹² Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

Jehoshaphat in summary – 2 Chronicles 20:29-33

So Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He was 35 years old when he became king of Judah, and he reigned in Jerusalem for 25 years...

He followed the ways of his father Asa and did not stray from them; he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord...



THE PROPHET and THE WORD – 3:13-19

The Prophet's Honesty – 3:13-14

14 Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you or even notice you. (2 Kings 3:14)

THE PROPHET and THE WORD – 3:13-19

The Prophet's Boldness 3:15-19: [Elisha] said, 'This is what the Lord says: I will fill this valley with pools of water. For this is what the Lord says: you will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. This is an easy thing in the eyes of the Lord; he will also deliver Moab into your hands. You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town.'



ELISHA'S EXAMPLE

1. Be FAITHFUL in following the Lord

Colossians 4:7: Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.

2. Be PREPARED to share God's Word

Colossians 4:4-5: Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that u may know how to answer everyone.

3. Be EXPECTANT of what the Lord can do

2 Timothy 1:7-8: For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord...

CONCLUSION – GOD’S WORD FULFILLED 3:18-27

¹⁸ ‘This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also deliver Moab into your hands. ¹⁹ You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, block up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones.’

²⁰ The next morning, about the time for offering the sacrifice, there it was – water flowing from the direction of Edom! And the land was filled with water.

²¹ Now all the Moabites had heard that the kings had come to fight against them; so every man, young and old, who could bear arms was called up and stationed on the border.

²² When they got up early in the morning, the sun was shining on the water. To the Moabites across the way, the water looked red – like blood.

CONCLUSION – GOD’S WORD FULFILLED 3:18-27

²³ ‘That’s blood!’ they said. ‘Those kings must have fought and slaughtered each other. Now to the plunder, Moab!’

²⁴ But when the Moabites came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and fought them until they fled. And the Israelites invaded the land and slaughtered the Moabites.

²⁵ They destroyed the towns, and each man threw a stone on every good field until it was covered. They stopped up all the springs and cut down every good tree.



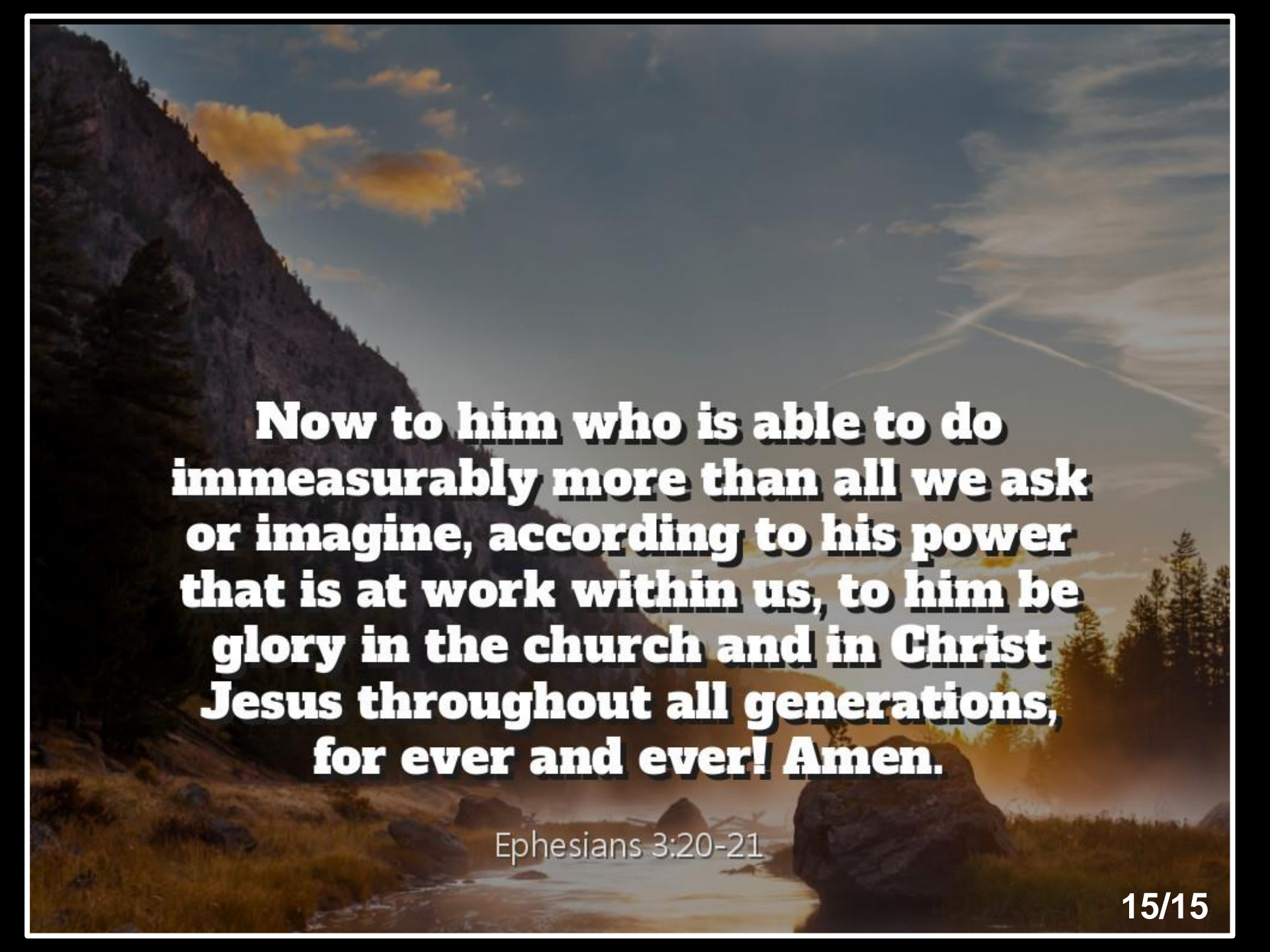
CONCLUSION – GOD’S WORD FULFILLED 3:18-27

Only Kir Hareseth was left with its stones in place, but men armed with slings surrounded it and attacked it.

²⁶ When the king of Moab saw that the battle had gone against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed.

²⁷ Then he took his firstborn son, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a sacrifice on the city wall. The fury against Israel was great; they withdrew and returned to their own land.



A scenic landscape featuring a steep, rocky mountain on the left, a river flowing through the foreground, and a dense forest of evergreen trees on the right. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting suggests a peaceful, natural setting.

**Now to him who is able to do
immeasurably more than all we ask
or imagine, according to his power
that is at work within us, to him be
glory in the church and in Christ
Jesus throughout all generations,
for ever and ever! Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20-21



To
God
be the Glory!