A Man Who Exalted God
Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.
   A. Text: Psalm 57.
   B. David knew that the worst thing that could happen for him would be for him to be exalted.

II. God designed it so that He would be first in accordance with His nature.
   A. The glory of God is one's chief objective in life, not the winning of souls, which is secondary.
   B. God only takes second place in the minds of fallen men.
   C. The purpose of redemption is to restore the right order.
   D. There will be no inward peace until God is exalted over us. A person must give up things and put God first.

III. A day will come when believers will share God’s glory, but now they are called to be a despised minority group—the cross of Christ is not socially acceptable.
   A. The secret is the increase of Jesus and the decrease of self.
   B. God’s kingdom cannot come until ours goes—all of our selfishness must leave.

Application questions:
1. How have you experienced a lack of peace in not putting God first?
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2. What can we do to help others exalt Jesus in their daily lives?
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3. Why is it that God’s glory comes before mission? Explain.
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