

Theme: Why did God create humans? To glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

I. Intro – The Prime Directive

- A. Starfleet General Order #1
- B. Main guiding principle to control decisions
- C. Not always consistently applied in show!
- D. There are some ideas that are foundational to life
- E. Why are we here? What is our purpose?
- F. This is basis of 1st question in our catechism
- G. It is like a prime directive - controls other things

II. Created by God?

- A. A key underlying statement - we are created
 - 1. Creation versus naturalistic evolution
 - 2. Purpose, meaning vs purposeless, meaningless
- B. Scripture is clear - we are created in God's image
 - 1. Genesis 1:1 - all is created by GOD
 - 2. Gen 1:27-28 - created in God's image; purpose

III. Created to Glorify God

- A. Created to glorify God
 - 1. 1 Cor 10:31 - glorify God
 - 2. Rev 4:11 - all exists to glorify God

- 3. Rom 11:36 - all from, through, to Him
- 4. Col 1:16 - all things created by, for Him

B. This view of God all but disappeared today

- 1. Quotes by Edwards, Wells, Newbigin, Dylan
- 2. We are sadly mistaken
- 3. Only a robust God-centered faith lasts

C. Glorifying God in everything

- 1. 1 Cor 10:31 - even in eating, drinking - all
- 2. Col 3:23 - all things as for God
- 3. 1 Pet 4:11 - all things, glory to God

IV. Created to Enjoy God

A. Created to enjoy God

- 1. Psa 16:11 - Joy, pleasures in God
- 2. Psa 63:1-5 - thirst and long; soul satisfied
- 3. Created for this; it satisfies!!!
- 4. Nothing else can really satisfy

B. Sin and idolatry - other things in God's place

- 1. Jer 2:11-13 - forsaking Glory; false water
- 2. Even good things can be idols/broken cisterns

C. God: the eternal ocean of joy

1. Edwards quote
2. In God, all things find true joy; apart, futility
3. Psa 16:11 - **eternal** ocean of joy

Psalm 63:1-5
January 3, 2010
Communion
Jude 24-25

V. Applying the Word

- A. Do we know we were created to glorify God?
 1. Do we see that we owe everything to God?
 2. Do we have a God-centered view of salvation?
 3. Do we have a God-centered view of life?
 4. Do we see we can glorify God in every area?
 5. Do we see this is how & why we were designed?
- B. Do we know that God is our source of true joy?
 1. Do we see that God to glorify God is true joy?
 2. Do we see all other 'joy' is false/fleeting?
 3. Do we hunger & thirst for God?
- C. Communion - The Feast of Glory and Joy
 1. In this feast we look to God - not self
 2. In this feast we see God is our joy
 3. Jesus Thou Joy

Created To Glorify and Enjoy God Forever
1 Corinthians 10:31; Psalm 16:11

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Psalm 16:11

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1:27-28

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:11

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:36

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. Colossians 1:16

One great reason why doctrine is thought to be of such little importance [is] that modern religion consists so little in respect to the Divine Being and almost wholly in benevolence to men. Jonathan Edwards

It is this God, majestic and holy in His Being, Who has disappeared from the modern evangelical world. – David Wells

I suddenly saw that someone could use all of the language of evangelical Christianity and yet the center was fundamentally the self – my need of salvation – and God is auxiliary to that. I also saw that quite a lot of evangelical Christianity can easily slip, can become centered in me, in my need of salvation, and not in the glory of God. Leslie Newbigin.

Spiritual advisors and gurus to guide your every move,
Instant inner peace and every step you take has got to be approved.
When you gonna wake up, when you gonna wake up
When you gonna wake up and strengthen the things that remain?
Do you ever wonder just what God requires?
You think He's just an errand boy to satisfy your wandering desires.
When you gonna wake up, when you gonna wake up
When you gonna wake up and strengthen the things that remain?
Bob Dylan

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, Colossians 3:23

If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:11

O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. 2 I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. 3 Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. 4 I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. 5 My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you. Psalm 63:1-5

But my people have exchanged their Glory for worthless idols. 12 Be appalled at this, O heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the LORD. 13 "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water. Jeremiah 2:11-13

The enjoyment of God is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied. To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here. Fathers and mothers, husbands, wives or children, or the company of earthly friends, are but shadows; but God is the substance. These are but scattered beams, but God is the sun. These are but streams. But God is the ocean. Jonathan Edwards
JESUS, Thou Joy of loving hearts!
Thou Fount of Life! Thou Light of men!
From the best bliss that earth imparts,
We turn unfill'd to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;
Thou savest those that on Thee call;
To them that seek Thee, Thou art good,
To them that find Thee, All in All!

We taste Thee, O Thou Living Bread,
And long to feast upon Thee still!
We drink of Thee, the Fountain Head,
And thirst our souls from Thee to fill!

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy-- 25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. Jude 1:24-25