



Question. 1. What is the chief end of man?

Answer. Man's chief end is to glorify
God, and to enjoy him for ever.

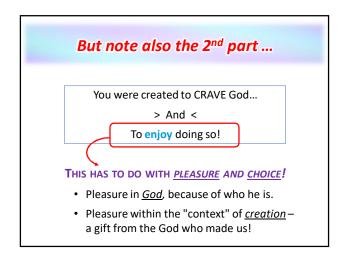
- From The Westminster Shorter Catechism

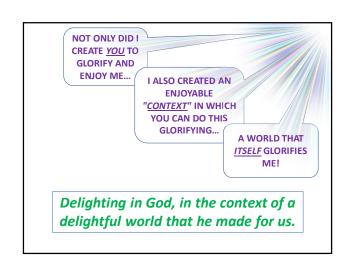
Though the above is not a <u>quote</u> from Scripture,
it expresses the <u>intent</u> of Scripture.

Suggested verses that illustrate this were provided
with the answer. Feel free to look for others!

[a]. Ps. 86:9; Isa. 60:21; Rom. 11:36; 1 Cor. 6:20; 10:31; Rev. 4:11
[b]. Ps. 16:5-11; 144:15; Isa. 12:2; Luke 2:10; Phillip. 4:4; Rev. 21:3-4







Creation – The pleasure-filled "context," in which we can enjoy and find pleasure in God!

✓ An expression/source of God's pleasure.

May the **glory** of the Lord endure forever. May the <u>Lord</u> find joy in what he has made.

Psalm 104:31 (GW)

✓ A <u>aift</u> for us, which we can enjoy as we express our pleasure and joy in him.

The heavens are the Lord's; but the earth he has given to the children of men.

Psalm 115:16 (BBE)

✓ A reflection of God's own glory; it glorifies God and reveals something about him.

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualitieshis eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, ...

Romans 1:20a (NIV)

We learn about the greatness of our God through what he has done.

This gives us all the more reason to want to glorify him.

WHO

should praise God for his glory?

<u>ALL</u> should – everything in heaven and on earth and under the earth!

Creation glorifies God, unconsciously and by nature.

The heavens **declare** the **glory** of God; the skies **proclaim** the work of his hands.

Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

We can do it, consciously and by choice.

I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

Psalm 86:12 (NIV)

I will give thanks to you with all my heart, O Lord my God. I will honor you forever ...

Psalm 86:12 (GW)

2 ways to express the same concepts.

reflection of God's GLORY!

reflection of God's GLORY!

right and PRAISE is the only response!

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens!

Praise him from the skies!

Praise him, all his angels!
Praise him, all the armies of heaven!

Praise him, sun and moon!
Praise him, all you twinkling stars!

Praise him, skies above!
Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!

Let every created thing give **praise** to the Lord, for he issued his command, and they came into being.

He established them forever and forever. His orders will never be revoked.

Psalm 148:1-6 (NLT)

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you creatures of the ocean depths,

fire and hail, snow and storm, wind and weather that obey him,

mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

wild animals and all livestock, reptiles and birds,

kings of the earth and all people, rulers and judges of the earth,

young men and maidens, old men and children.

Let them all praise the name of the Lord.
 For his name is very great;
 his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

Psalm 148:7-13 (NLT)

If it were not for sin, <u>this</u> would have been the attitude of <u>every human being!</u>

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100:1-5 (NIV)

CRAVING GOD

IF sin had not come into the world:

<u>Glorifying God</u> would have been the #1 <u>joy</u> for <u>all</u> humanity.

#1 !!

It would have been our #1 DESIRE... our #1 CRAVE!

#1!!

But sin has changed all this. Sin has complicated matters.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

✓ WE HAVE TURNED the focus of our delight <u>away from</u> the one who made us.

We now have more delight in the gifts – the things of creation – than in the giver.

 WE HAVE DESTROYED both ourselves and the gift – the creation he gave us.

As we twisted and distorted our focus (away from God), we also twisted and distorted his gift of creation.

Sin's devastating effects.

Everything about us has been affected by our sin.

- ✓ Our <u>qood</u> longings cannot be totally fulfilled.
- ✓ We now have longings that are <u>not</u> good, which we try to fulfil.

The whole world has been affected by our sin.

- ✓ Things do not always work as God created them to.
- Creation <u>groans</u> for the day that it will be restored to a sinless condition... <u>do you</u>?

Even CREATION suffers because of our sin.

It looks forward to the day when Jesus will return and make things new!

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

Against its will, everything on earth was subjected to God's curse.

All creation anticipates the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.

Romans 8:19-21 (NLT)

In terms of our study ...

BEFORE:

It would have been the <u>natural inclination</u> of every human being to glorify God.

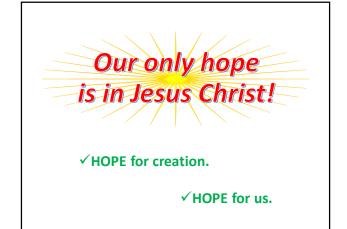
This would have been our #1 desire.

Our study of "I CRAVE" would have been centered around glorifying God.

AETED.

It is the <u>natural inclination</u> of every human being to do the opposite.

That makes our study more complex.



When God saves us from our sins:

We are able to once again glorify him...

- Not just by what we <u>do</u> how we live.
- But also by our <u>attitude</u> toward him our desire to acknowledge his glory.



... to the praise of his glorious grace, ...

- ... for the praise of his glory.
- ... to the **praise** of his **glory**.

Ephes. 1:6a, 12b, 14b (NIV)

The DUTY to glorify God remains. *All* people will do it... SOMEDAY.

... at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philip. 2:10-11 (NLT)

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

> "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

> > Rev. 5:13 (NIV)

But God's people won't wait!

They have an <u>additional</u> reason to glorify God:
They delight in doing so.

I will be **filled with joy** because of you.
I will sing **praises** to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 9:2 (NLT)

Let the **righteous rejoice** in the Lord and take refuge in him;

let all the upright in heart praise him!

Psalm 64:10 (NIV)

When we recognize the greatness of our God

through what he has done, <u>this gives us all the more</u> reason to want to glorify him!

✓ Because he made us!

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I **praise** you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:13-14 (NIV)

✓ Because of the responsibility he has given us over creation!

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth! ...
You have set your glory above the heavens.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, ...
O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8:1, 3-6, 9 (ESV)

✓ Because he saved us!

You were bought for a price.
So bring glory to God in the way you use your body.

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything to the glory of God.

1 Cor. 6:20; 10:31 (GW)

✓ Because he deserves it!

For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:36 (NASB)

Yes, it is our <u>duty</u>... but for God's people, it is also our <u>joy</u>!

All the nations that you have made will bow in your presence, O Lord.

They will honor you.

Psalm 86:9 (GW)

"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."

Rev. 4:11 (NIV)

Consider: God's glory and your response to it. What is your #1 CRAVING in life?

Credits

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