



## Preface: Concerning Our Purpose

**Question 1:** What is the chief end of man?

**Answer 1:** The chief end of man is to bring glory to God.

**Memory Verse:** **Ecclesiastes 12:13**

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

**Support Verses:** **1 Corinthians 10:31**

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

**Romans 11:36**

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

**Revelation 4:11**

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

### **Discussion Points:**

1. What does the Bible mean by the word "fear" as it relates to God?

- Fear is having the proper reverence, respect, and regard for God.
- Fear is acknowledging God for Who He is.
- Is there ever a time to be scared, or afraid of God?
- There is certainly a time, when in unbelief, that the Bible is very clear about the nature of God.
- In fact, it says that God is a "consuming fire." (Deuteronomy 4:24; Hebrews 12:29)
- It also says that we should fear Him Who has power over the destiny of our body and soul. (Matthew 10:28)
- We are reminded of Who He is in these verses, and that His character demands reverence.

2. What does the Bible mean by the word "duty?"

- In this particular case, "whole duty" implies that this is the complete purpose for which man was created.
- So, when you examine your own life, you find that you are a special creation of God that was designed with the distinct purpose of being His.
- You find and understand your existence only in Him, for that is the exact measure for which you were created.
- This truth certainly speaks volumes to the peace that comes from obedience to His will.
- This also is a clear directive for our life that is to be a testimony to all of creation, of the splendor of our Creator.
- In everything we do, we must realize that our duty is to bring Him glory; that is your everything! (1 Corinthians 10:31)



3. What does it mean to "glorify" God?

- To glorify God is to make much of Him.
- The "glory" of God is the manifestation, or expression of His majesty.
- The Lord Jesus is the ultimate example of this truth as the "express image of His majesty." (Hebrews 1:3)
- So, to "glorify" is to pay tribute, by our words and actions, to the greatness of God.
- We become, by the fulfillment of our purpose, the expression or manifestation of His majesty in the earth; as Jesus put it, "the light of the world!" (Matthew 5:14; Ephesians 5:8)

4. What does the Bible mean by "pleasure" in Revelation 4:11?

- It means that we have been created for the distinct purpose of fulfilling God's will.
- As we fulfill His will, which is our duty, He is glorified.
- Does the fact that we were created for God's pleasure mean that we provide God with entertainment, or are we designed for his amusement?
- The answer is of course, No!
- We are however, created with the purpose, and distinct privilege of pleasing Him.
- What a testimony to His creative work... We are made in His image and after His likeness, and as such we have the freedom, by being restored to that image in Christ, to fulfill the exact purpose for which we were created.

**Notable Quotes:**

"For freedom is not the right to do as one pleases but the opportunity to please to do what is right."  
 Peter Marshall, Chaplain of the United States Senate

**Notes:**

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**Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual Songs:**

- "Thou Art Worthy" (Scripture Chorus #67 – Rejoice Hymns - Revelation 4:11)
- "I Sing Praises" (Chorus #50 - Rejoice Hymns)
- "Worthy of Worship" (Hymn #23 - Rejoice Hymns)