

Section 2. Church Mission

Church Mission:

We exist to spread a _____ for the _____ of God in all things for the joy of all peoples through _____

4 Main Ideas needed to understand the connection between the supremacy of God and our joy.

1. God does everything he does for the _____ of his own _____. God's biggest passion is for God.

God will not share His Glory - Isaiah 42: 5-9
God chose his people for his own glory: Eph 1:4-6
God created us for his own glory: Isa 43:6-7
God called Israel for his own glory: Jer 13:11
God rescued his people from Egypt for his own glory: psalms 106:7-8
God raised pharaoh up to show his own power and glorify his own name: Romans 9:17
God defeated pharaoh at the Red Sea to show his glory: Ex 14:4,17 &18
God spared Israel in the wilderness for the Glory of his name: Ezekiel 20:14
Gave Israel victory in Canaan: 2 Sam 7:23
Did not cast away his people: 1 Sam 12:20
Saved Jerusalem from attack: 2 Kin 19:34 cf. 20:6
Restored Israel from exile: Ezekiel 36:22-23
Jesus sought the Glory of the father in all he did: John 7:18
Jesus told us to do good works so that God gets the glory Mat 5:16; 1 Pet 2:12
Jesus said that he answers prayer so that God would be glorified: John 14:13
Jesus endured the final hours of suffering for God's glory: John 12:27,28
(Caveat: what was the object of his joy? God, us, or both? - Hebrews 12:2)
God gave his own Son to vindicate the Glory of his righteousness: Romans 3:25,26
God forgives sins for his own sake: Isa 43:25; Psalms 25:11
Jesus receives us into fellowship for the Glory of God: Romans 15:7
The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Son of God: John 16:14
God instructs us to do everything for his Glory: 1 Cor 10:31
God tells us to serve in a way that will glorify him: 1 Pet 4:11
Jesus fills us with the fruit of righteousness for God's glory: Phil 1:11
All are under judgment for dishonoring God's Glory: Romans 3:23
Herod is struck dead because he did not give glory to God: Acts 12:23
Jesus is coming again for the glory of God: 2 Thes 1:9-10
Jesus' ultimate aim for us is that we see and enjoy his glory: John 17:24
Even in wrath God's aim is to make known the wealth of his glory: Romans 9:22-23
God's plan is to fill the earth with the knowledge of his glory: Hab 2:14
Everything that happens will rebound to God's glory: Rom 11:36
In the new Jerusalem the glory of God replaces the sun: Revelation 21:23

2. This is not _____ – to be swept up in God is what _____ the human soul

- “You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.” - _____

3. If exulting God, to the degree that we see him for who he is, satisfies the human soul, then God is the only being in the universe for whom self exultation is the ultimate _____ and the essence of _____.

4. If this argument is true, then the stunning implication is that we should make it our vocation in life to be as _____ as we possibly can be in God.

- C.S. Lewis *Weight of Glory* – “We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

Objections:

1. Does the bible really teach this? Yes, and it does so in three ways.
 - _____ – Psalm 37:4; Psalm 32:11; Psalm 100:2; Philippians 4:4
 - _____ – 28:47 "Because you did not serve the LORD your God *with joy and a glad heart*, for the abundance of all things; therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you."
 - _____ - By defining sin as the insanity of forsaking the pursuit of your pleasure in God – Jeremiah 2:12-13

2. What about self _____?
 - Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever *wants to save his life* will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" Mark 8:34-35
 - Lose your life in the sense that you loose everything but me. (Matt 13:44) – Rich young ruler
 - I believe in denying myself of everything that would stand in the way of me being satisfied fully in God.
 - David Livingstone – "I never made a sacrifice."

3. Aren't we supposed to serve God? What about service and _____ when it gets hard?
 - Acts 17:25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.
 - Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
 - 1 Pet 4:11 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.
 - The giver gets the glory, the receiver gets the joy.

Links:

John Piper: Let The Nations Be Glad: The Supremacy of God in Missions
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l0fzrVds9NA>
<http://www.desiringgod.org/AboutUs/OurDistinctives/OurMission/>