## The Chief End of Man

Psalm 37:1-11

"Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever" (Westminster Shorter Catechism, 1643-1648). "End" indicates a goal or result that one should seek to achieve.

God has put us on Planet Earth that we might bring glory to Him and enjoy Him. To "enjoy" means "to take delight in, to find pleasure in." God Himself is to be our source of pleasure and delight and satisfaction.

Notice the word "joy" embedded in the word "enjoy." Our joy is to be in God our Saviour: "Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice" (*Phil. 4:4*). Man's chief disappointments come whenever he seeks to find joy and satisfaction and fulfillment apart from God. "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (*Ps. 37:4*). Habakkuk knew the secret: "Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation" (*Hab. 3:18*).

The man or woman who enjoys God will also take great delight in God's will, as exemplified by the perfect Man, Christ Jesus: "My meat [food] is to do the will of Him that sent Me" (*John 4:34*). "I delight to do Thy will, O my God" (*Ps. 40:8*).

God's will is expressed in God's Word, and thus the man or woman who enjoys God takes great delight in the Holy Scriptures: "I will delight myself in Thy statutes: I will not forget Thy Word" (*Ps. 119:16*). "Thy testimonies are my delight" (*Ps. 119:24*). "I will delight myself in Thy commandments, which I have loved" (*Ps. 119:47*). "Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage" (*Ps. 119:54*). "O how love I Thy law! It is my meditation all the day" (*Ps. 119:97*). "More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb" (*Ps. 19:10*).

What is our chief enjoyment and chief source of delight?

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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