

GOD'S GLORY

the Goal of History



IF → there is
GOD

IF → HE
RULES
the WORLD
with **OMNIPOTENCE**

IF → we
MUST
STAND BEFORE
Him

the **2** **MOST**
IMPORTANT
Questions
ARE...

(1) What is God's
goal in creating
and governing the
world?

(2) How can I bring my life into alignment with that goal?

If we
don't know his goal
and our lives are
not in alignment
with it...

...we will find ourselves
at cross purposes

with God.

**It is a fearful thing
to be at
cross purposes
with your maker!**

On the other hand...

Nothing inspires
courage, endurance
and **zeal** for
daily living...

...like knowing the purpose of God and feeling yourself wholeheartedly in harmony with it.

First:
What is God's goal in creating and governing the world?

ISAIAH 43

“Bring all who claim me as their God, for I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them.”

Isaiah 43:7

*everything
everywhere
That Was*



EXISTS
for the 
GLORY of GOD

"Whether you eat or drink
or whatever you do, do all
to the glory of God."

1 Cor. 10:31

what is the GLORY of GOD?

**God's glory is
the perfect harmony of
all his attributes**

into one infinitely beautiful and personal being. The glory of the Lord is everything that makes God, God. All His characteristics.

God's glory is magnified
when his full perfection is
esteemed, praised,
worshiped & valued
by others.

God is glorified when he, in his full perfection, is **esteemed, praised, worshiped** & **valued** in proportion to his worth.

Side note: When God says that he created us *for his glory*, it does not mean that he created us so that he would *become* more glorious.

Side note: His beauty and perfection is not somehow increased by us. It is unthinkable that God should become more perfectly God by making something that is not God.

Man was created from the beginning *in God's image* that he might **image forth God's glory.**

Instead man chose to rely on himself and seek **(glorify)** his own glory—to make a name for **(magnify)** himself.
(See Gen 3:5, 11:4)

What it means then to be ‘created for the glory of God’ is:
that he created us to *display his glory, that is, that his glory might be known and praised.*

He was to multiply and fill the earth so **that the knowledge of the glory of God would be magnified all over the earth.** (See Gen 1:27-28)

“...they became fools and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God** for images made to look like a mortal human being...” Romans 1:22-23

Ever since the fall of man into sin, people have refused to align themselves with this divine goal.

But all of God's acts have been **aimed** at seeing it through.

*But now, this is what the LORD says—he who **created you**, Jacob, he who **formed you**, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have **redeemed you**; I have **summoned you** by name; **you are mine.**” Isaiah 43:1*

“I created you.”

“He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them “Mankind” when they were created.” Gen 5:2

Humanity



“I formed you.”

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.” Psalm 139:13

PERSONALLY



“I redeemed you.”

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.” Eph 1:7



Salvation

"I summoned you."

For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." **Acts 13:47**



Because we were...

- Created**
- Formed**
- Redeemed**
- Summoned**

"You are mine."

"You belong to God." **1 John 4:4** "You are...God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness" **1 Pet 2:9**

OWNED



We are...

- God's personal **property**
- God's **possession**
- Subject to his **purpose**

In what ways does God seek glory via his human possessions?

"Do not be afraid, for **I am with you.** **I will gather you** and your children from east and west. I will say to the north and south, '**Bring my sons and daughters back from the distant corners of the earth.**'" **Isaiah 43:5-6**

"I am with you."

"My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people." **Ez 37:27**

Fellowship



"From the corners."

"There before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne...wearing white robes." **Rev 7:9**

Missions



God
created (**formed**)
a people...

"I will gather you." "Bring them back."

"He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." **2 Peter 3:9**



"I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people **I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise."**

Isaiah 43:20-21

...that he could pour his sustenance upon (**provide**)

...in order that they overflow with thankful, contagious worship (*proclaim*)

Second:
How do we, daily bring our lives into harmony with that goal?

1 Acknowledge
God's ownership.

"since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them."
Romans 1:18

2 Be thankful for God's provision.

"...they *neither* glorified him as God nor gave *thanks* to him." *Romans 1:21*

3 Submit to God's design.

"They *exchanged* the truth about God for a lie."
Romans 1:25

4 Adopt God's purposes.

"You are...God's special possession, **that you may** declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness" *1 Pet 2:9*

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Stick to God's methods.

"For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

Phil 2:13

*"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works **and give glory to your Father in heaven.**"*

Matt 5:16

*"Jesus clearly commands that the goal of our lives should be to behave in such a way so that God gets the glory. It should be very clear that glorifying God is not merely an act of worship on Sunday. **It is a peculiar kind of living.**"*

John Piper

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Rely on God's power.

"Apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

*"It is possible to be a kind of do-gooder that brings no glory to God. **There is a spirit from which the good deeds must flow if they are to bring God glory** and so be pleasing to him. In order for God to get the glory we have to do good as one does it who is depending on God's strength."*

John Piper