

“How to Glorify and Enjoy God”  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

I. Introduction.

A. Review.

1. Man’s chief end, his main purpose in life, is to glorify God and enjoy Him.
2. To glorify Him means to acknowledge Him as God and our God, to thank Him for all we receive and to honor Him in all we do, in both the small things in life, as well as the great things.
3. To enjoy Him means to love Him, to desire to spend time with Him and to do what He says. Jesus says, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments” (John 14:15).

B. But how are we to do this?

1. So many people have so many ideas how to honor and serve God.
  - a. Consider all the false religions: Islam, Mormons, Jehovah’s Witnesses, *etc.*
  - b. Consider all the things they do to worship their deities: fasting during the month of Ramadan, making a pilgrimage to Mecca, fighting in a holy war (jihad), aspiring to godhood by getting married in a temple and doing good works, going door to door trying to get people to join your organization, *etc.*
  - c. All false religions have this in common: They are all based on trying to please a false deity.
  - d. In other words, your view of who God is and what He is all about will dictate to you how you will try to serve and honor Him.
  - e. In order to successfully serve the true God then, we must know who He is, what He is like, and what He wants.
2. Thankfully, the Lord has not left us in the dark on this:
  - a. He has given to us a rule to show us how to glorify and enjoy Him.
  - b. In that rule, He has shown us who He is, what He is like and what He wants.

II. Sermon.

A. First, the Lord has given to us a rule to show us how to glorify and enjoy Him.

1. He has given us the Old and New Testaments.
  - a. Paul says to Timothy, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15).
  - b. What is that word of truth? “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
  - c. What was that Scripture he was referring to?
    - (i) Was it the NT? It wasn’t written yet.
    - (ii) It was the OT.
    - (iii) Granted certain parts have been fulfilled: the ceremonial law.
    - (iv) But those parts which haven’t and which haven’t been set aside by God are still in effect.
    - (v) This is why our Bible has the Old and New Testaments bound together.
2. It is the only rule He has given us.
  - a. We are not to rely on our own thinking. We might end up in a false religion.
  - b. We are not to rely on further revelation from the Lord.
    - (i) That has ceased.
    - (ii) Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, “So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is

growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit” (2:19-22).

- c. We are not to rely on any other so-called sacred writings.
- d. The Bible alone is our standard.

B. Secondly, it gives to us what we need to glorify and enjoy Him: it tells us who God is and what He wants us to do.

- 1. It tells us who He is.
  - a. This morning we were looking at what we can know about God in the Creation.
    - (i) Paul tells us that in it “His invisible, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen” (Rom. 1:20).
    - (ii) It shows us that He is eternal, infinite, one, unchangeable, all-powerful, intelligent, conscious, moral, all-knowing, all-wise, *etc.*
  - b. But He has given us a book that reveals even more of who He is.
    - (i) It not only verifies that what we see of Him in the Creation is right, it shows us more about Him.
    - (ii) It tells us that He is triune: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
    - (iii) More than this, it tells us why He is angry with His Creation – namely, sin – and most importantly, what He has done to resolve that issue – He sent His Son to redeem fallen man.
    - (iv) It reveals Him as a very gracious God who has given what is most precious to Himself to save us.
    - (v) Sadly, there are those who know more about God from the Creation than some who have the Bible. This tells us that we should study it more.
- 2. It tells us what He wants us to do.
  - a. He has given us very detailed instructions on how to live.
    - (i) How we are to love, serve and worship Him.
    - (ii) How we are to love others.
  - b. He has also given us a summary of all those instructions in the Ten Commandments.
    - (i) The first four specifically on how to love Him.
    - (ii) And the last six on how we are to love Him by loving our neighbor.
    - (iii) He has given us a complete rule to glorify and enjoy Him.

### III. Application.

A. It’s only by understanding who God is and what He wants us to do that we will ever be able to glorify and enjoy Him.

- 1. Obviously, He is not pleased by our worshipping a false god.
- 2. Just as obvious, I hope we understand that He is not pleased by our worshipping Him in a way He has not commanded.
- 3. We must both know who He is and what He wants us to do.

B. But is it enough to know who He is and what He wants? No.

- 1. This only gives us what we need to actually glorify and enjoy Him. We can’t do it apart from this knowledge.
- 2. But there is more:
  - a. We must actually come into a relationship with this God through Christ: we must really “know” Him.
    - (i) Jesus said, “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3).
    - (ii) Some only study to know about Him, while others study to know Him.
    - (iii) Let’s seek to know the Lord.
  - b. And we must not only know what He wants us to do, we must also do it.
    - (i) The Lord isn’t going to examine our knowledge on judgment day.

- (ii) He is going to examine our works, because they will show where our heart is really at.
- (iii) And so let's seek to love the Lord more in our actions, rather than in just our words or our knowledge. That will really show Him that we love Him. Amen.