



# LIFE AS EXILES: Pillars/ *Soli Deo Gloria*/ 1 Peter 2.9-10

## 1/ Connect

- How was your time in God's Word last week? How did you grow?
  - Did you get to invite anyone to church or share the Gospel? How did it go?
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*Westminster Catechism:*

Question: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

## 2/ Explore - Read the Scripture. (1 Peter 2.9-10)

### A. The 'Chief End'

- See the *Westminster Catechism* Q & A. What does it mean to you?
- What happens if we ask that same question of God? What is God's chief end?  
see John 12.27-28 for one example...

Discuss: How does it make you feel that God's ultimate goal is to glorify Himself?

See Lewis' thought from *Meditation on the Psalms*:

The most obvious fact about praise—whether of God or anything—strangely escaped me. ... I had never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise... The world rings with praise... My whole, more general, difficulty about the praise of God depended on my absurdly denying to us, as regards the supremely Valuable, what we delight to do, what we indeed can't help doing, about everything else we value.

I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed...

If it were possible for a created soul fully... to "appreciate", that is to love and delight in, the worthiest object of all, and simultaneously at every moment to give this delight perfect expression, then that soul would be in supreme beatitude... The ...catechism says that man's chief end is "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever". But we shall then know that these are the same thing. To fully enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him."

## 2/ Explore, continued.

### B. *The Ultimate Beauty.*

- i. See Ps 19.1, James 1.7// What is God like?

### C. *The Ugly Trade.*

- ii. What have we done with that glory we were made to enjoy?
  - a. See Romans 1.22, 3.23. What do we deserve for demeaning such value so continually?

### D. *The Beautiful Trade*

- i. See 1 Peter 2.10: What are believers defined by? What has God shown us?
  - a. Where do we see that mercy most clearly? See 1 Peter 1.18-19.

### C. *The New People*

- i. See 1 Peter 2.9: Peter describes believers with several phrases derived from the OT.
  - a. How does each fit in with the idea of “Precious Family”. Discuss each briefly.

### D. *The New Praise*

- i. See 1 Peter 2.9: What are we saved to proclaim?
  - a. What is the feel of this passage?
  - b. What should it look like in your life?

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## 3/ Apply = Know//Be//Do

How should this text impact your heart? Your deeds? Your mouth?

**What’s one way you need to apply this text this week?**

**Pray for one another.**

