

Glory and Joy in 2015

In 1642, the English Parliament abolished the episcopal system of church government in the Church of England.

An assembly of 120 ministers and 30 laypersons was called to Westminster Cathedral in London to rebuild the English church. Parliament called the Westminster Assembly during a time of increasing hostility between Charles I, monarch of England and Scotland, and the Puritans. Puritans could be distinguished by their insistence that worship practices be supported implicitly or explicitly by the Bible, while their opponents gave greater authority to traditional customs.

The documents coming out of the six-year Westminster Assembly are some of the most famous in church history.

The first question in the Westminster Shorter Catechism reads: "What is the chief end of man?" Answer: "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever."

Commenting on those conclusions, Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, wrote in his book *Turning Points*: "The implications of that question and answer, profound in their simplicity, are that to glorify God is to enjoy God, and to accomplish both is to fulfill man's ultimate purpose in life. It is a rewording of Paul's famous words: 'Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.'"

As we prepare to move into 2015, let's get personal. What are you going to do in the coming year? What is your purpose? Are there areas of your life that are not glorifying to God, and you are therefore not enjoying?

Here are two things to do well in the new year:

1. Glorify God.
2. Enjoy Him all year long in every area of your life.

Those of us who work in Life Care Centers of America and Century Park have discovered that a wonderful way to glorify God is by serving His children. And that brings a closer walk, a special enjoyment of our relationship with our Lord.

Glorify God and enjoy Him. The same words that rebuilt a national church can also rebuild a personal life.

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter