

Quotes for Aug 29:

**#1:**

“I think one of the most disturbing rights people believe they have is the right of fellowship with God. I have no poll data on this, only countless pieces of anecdotal evidence. Yet I feel sure fellowship with God has increasingly been regarded as a right, even if no one quite states it that way. The thought probably runs something like this: ‘God made me. He’s responsible for me. So it is up to him, in fact, he is obliged, to make sure I have a wonderful existence.’ End of the argument. Like the German poet Heinrich Heine said in 1856 on his deathbed, ‘The good God will forgive. That is his job.’ Is that what you think? Is God obligated to ensure that you have a happy life, and to offer any forgiveness that needs to be offered?...If you think any of these things – and if you are a normal American you probably think at least one ... of them – then the idea of grace in Paul’s letter to the Ephesians might surprise you.” **Mark Dever**

**#2:**

“(The Spirit causes intense delight in the heart of the Christian as He) makes the attributes of God as revealed in the Gospel and manifested in Christ, delightful objects of contemplation; and makes the soul to long after God and Christ, after their presence and communion, and acquaintance with them, and conformity to them; and to live so as to please and honor them.” **Jonathan Edwards**

**#3:**

“We are in the midst of a struggle that is far greater than us, but it is not bigger than our God. It involves two warring kingdoms, but the sides are not at all evenly matched. There is no cosmic dualism here, with two opposing gods of near-equal power. The testimony of Scripture from beginning to end is that Yahweh is sovereign ... But there truly is a war. Satan and his forces fiercely pursue their objective of promulgating all forms of evil in the world ... (including) working to bring about the demise of the church ... for (Martin) Luther the precious truth that ‘God is for us’ directly implies that ‘the devil is against us.’” **Clinton Arnold**

**#4:**

“Satan can attack but never ultimately destroy true Christian faith, because we are preserved by grace. Therefore, he seeks to destroy our enjoyment of the grace of God. In this, sadly, he frequently succeeds.” **Sinclair Ferguson**

**#5:**

“This gives us our highest conception of the dignity of the church. The works of God manifest his glory by being what they are. It is because the universe is so vast, the

heavens so glorious, the earth so beautiful and teeming, ,that they reveal the boundless affluence of their Maker. If, then, it is through the church God designs specially to manifest to the highest order of intelligence his infinite power, grace, and wisdom, the church, in her consummation, must be the most glorious of his works.” **Charles Hodge**

**#6:**

“Here in this little letter to the Ephesians, we probably have more clarity on God’s ultimate purpose for creation than in any other book of the Bible. It provides one of the clearest statements in the Bible on what God is ultimately doing ...” **Mark Dever**

**#7:**

“What I owe Jonathan Edwards for guiding me in these things is incalculable. I love his words, ‘The happiness of the creature consists in rejoicing in God, by which also God is magnified and exalted.’ But I also love to say it my way: God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him.” **John Piper**