

In Whom Does The Lord Delight? (2)

Psalms 18:19-27

In our last lesson:

- Last week we began this brief study examining whom the Lord will delight in.
- Our study is based on **Psalms 18:19**
- We defined “delight” as one in whom God is pleased and takes pleasure in.
- We noted that God delighting in us ought to be our goal.

In our last lesson:

- We noted a few examples of men in whom the LORD delighted
 - David – a man after God’s own heart
 - Enoch – who walked with God
 - Job – described as blameless and upright
 - Abraham was described as a friend of God
 - Moses with whom God spoke face to face
 - Daniel who 3 times was described as “one greatly beloved”
 - Finally, Jesus – in whom God was well pleased.
- We concluded noting how God responded to those in whom He delighted.

“He delighted in me...” (**Psalm 18:19-27**)

- *He rewarded me according to my righteousness*
- Righteousness means adhering to what is required. It is about conduct that is right in God's eyes.
- But one can go through the motions and his heart not be righteous. His standard might be skewed or his actions outward – like the Jews of **Romans 10:3, Philippians 3:9**.

He might be self-righteous – **Luke 16:15** – God knows your heart.

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- *He rewarded me according to my righteousness*
- David's righteousness was from his heart.

Acts 13:22, 1 Samuel 13:14

- His righteousness, which the LORD delighted in, is further developed throughout our text.

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- According to the *cleanness of my hands* He has recompensed me.
- This a legal term (civil) meaning someone had no part in something wrongful (did the party act unfairly or dishonestly)?
- Biblically, it describes one who is innocent, either in a given situation or his overall manner of life. He has not participated in something evil.
- Some trace its origin to the Levitical priesthood – **Exodus 30:21**

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- *According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me.*
- David is declaring that he acted honestly with others – **cf. 1 Kings 15:5**
- **Psalm 24:3-4** – who may dwell in God’s presence?
- We need to be living with “clean hands”
 - Trying to live without sin
 - Obeying the gospel – **Acts 22:15, Hebrews 10:22**
 - **1 John 1:9**
 - **James 4:8** – cleanse your hands you sinners...

“He delighted in me...” (**Psalm 18:19-27**)

- **18:21-22** - *For I have kept the ways of the LORD,... For all His judgments were before me, And I did not put away His statutes from me.*
- God delights in those who obey Him.
- **Luke 6:46, James 1:21-25** – doers of the word, not hearers only
- Faithfulness – describes one whom God can depend on – **1 Corinthians 4:1-2**

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- **18:21-22** - *For I have kept the ways of the LORD, ... For all His judgments were before me, And I did not put away His statutes from me.*
- **Matthew 6:24** – no one can serve 2 masters...
loyal to one
- Consider obedience, even over commanded acts of worship – **Psalm 51:16-17, 1 Samuel 15:22-23, Isaiah 1:11-12, cf. Amos 5:21-22**

“He delighted in me...” (**Psalm 18:19-27**)

- **18:21-22** - *And have not wickedly departed from my God. Vs. 23 – I have kept myself from my iniquity.*
- He was not rebellious, hypocritical or corrupt.
- God does NOT delight in the one living wickedly or a double life
- Wickedness – **James 1:21, Acts 8:22**
- Hypocrisy condemned – **Matthew 23 – 7x, James 1:8, 3:10-11, 1 John 4:20, Titus 1:16**
- The life of a disciple is continual – 7 days a week

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- **18:23** - *I was also blameless before Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity.*
- Blameless means no charge can be levied against one. While David did sin (egregiously) he addressed his sins – thus he could say he was blameless
- **1 Chronicles 29:17, Psalm 139:23-24** – he was upright
- Recall Job - **Job 1:8**
- **Philippians 2:15**
- We are not perfect either, but we have a Savior who can present us blameless – **1 Thessalonians 5:23, 2 Peter 3:14**

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- **18:25** – *With the merciful You show Yourself merciful*
- David demonstrated mercy – with Saul and his descendants, and on numerous other occasions. He was forgiving.
- **Micah 6:8** – *He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?*
- **Matthew 5:7, James 2:13**
- WHY will God show mercy to the merciful? Because He delights in them.

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- **18:26** – *With the pure You show Yourself pure*
- Purity can have 2 different meanings:
 - 1) Unpolluted & 2) Undiluted
- **Matthew 5:8** – *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*
- **Psalm 24:3-4** – Who may dwell with God? Clean hands AND pure heart.
- **James 4:8** – purify your hearts.

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- **18:27** – *For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks.*
- Humility was the quality of David that sought forgiveness – **2 Samuel 12:12-14, Psalm 51, 2 Samuel 24:10, 17 & 24.**
- **Isaiah 57:15** – *For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*
- **1 Peter 5:5-6** – God exalts the humble in due time
Romans 12:3 – do not think more highly of yourself...

As you examine your life,
what Does God see in you?
What do you see in yourself?

Do these answers align?

Is God delighting
in you?

Let us pray!