

In Whom Does The Lord Delight? (3)

Psalm 18:19

- We are continuing to examine the one in whom the Lord delights.
- 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.

Previously

- Last week we noted some of the qualities that David had which prompted the LORD's delight.
 - He was righteous
 - He had clean hands
 - He had kept the word of the LORD
 - He had kept away from wickedness
 - He was blameless
 - He was merciful
 - He was pure
 - He was humble
- These are the types of qualities that God delights in.

In Whom Does The Lord Delight?

When God Delights in You

Psalm 18:19

Opening thoughts

- God blesses those who delight in Him.
- But understand that what God does for us today is different than during Biblical times when miracles and direct intervention were needed at times
- Anything He does today is related to our spiritual relationship with Him and/or providentially provided.

Hebrews 1:1-2, cf. 1 Corinthians 13:8-12 – we have His word through which much of His blessings are accomplished

When God delights in us:

- *He draws near to us*
- **James 4:8** – predicated on us drawing near to Him.
- **1 John 3:1** – we are called His children
- **1 John 1:7** – we have fellowship with Him
- **Psalm 145:18**, *The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.*

When God delights in us:

- *He draws near to us*
- **Revelation 3:20** – We must “open the door” to let Him draw near to us.
- NOTE: To draw near to God is a choice we must maintain. We can CHOOSE to walk away (e.g., the prodigal son). And If He is near us, it will be because we are moving TOWARD Him – **Hebrews 10:22**

When God delights in us:

- *He strengthens us*
- This is not about physical strength, but spiritual (and mental). This is about resolve!
- **Psalm 18:19**, He brought me out into a broad place... - stability
- **Psalm 1:3** – we shall be like a tree planted by the water
- **Philippians 4:13** – *I can do all things through Christ...*

When God delights in us:

- *He strengthens us*
- This is about resolve!
- **2 Timothy 4:17-18**, *But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me.*
- **2 Corinthians 12:10** – Paul's thorn in the flesh, *...for when I am weak, then I am strong.*
- **Cf. 1 Corinthians 10:13**

When God delights in us:

- *He protects us*
- As a loving father protects his family, God protects us
- **2 Thessalonians 3:3**, *But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.*
- **1 John 4:4** – we are of God and have overcome the evil one
- **Romans 8:31-39** – God does care and is in control, regardless of what happens

When God delights in us:

- *He protects us*
- **2 Peter 2:9** – He knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation and reserve the unjust
- **Galatians 1:3-4** – Jesus paid the price to deliver us from this present evil age.
- **Matthew 6:13** – as part of our prayers

When God delights in us:

- *He gives us peace*
- **Philippians 4:6-7** – Be anxious for nothing... the peace of God which surpasses understanding...
- **Psalms 119:165**, *Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.*
- **Colossians 1:21-23** – because our sins are forgiven we have peace

When God delights in us:

- *He gives us peace*
- **Proverbs 16:7**, *When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.*

The directions God gives us about living peaceably with men **Romans 12:18, Hebrews 12:14**, include:

- We think before we speak – **James 1:19-20**
 - We do good for everyone that we can – **Rom. 12:17-21**
 - We even love & pray for our enemies – **Matt. 5:44**
 - **Romans 14:19** – even dealing with brethren
- With these we increase the likelihood of peace.

When God delights in us:

- *He gives us peace*
- **John 14:27**, His peace is different than what the world perceives
- **Isaiah 26:3**, *You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.*
- **2 Thessalonians 3:16**, *Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.*

When God delights in us:

- *He hears our prayers*
- Prayer is a privilege of the saved.
While God hears everything, His followers have greater access to Him
- **1 Peter 3:12, James 5:15-16**, the effective fervent prayer of the righteous

When God delights in us:

- *He hears our prayers*
- Prayer is a privilege of the saved.
- **Psalm 145:18-19**, *The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.*
- **1 John 5:14-15**, if we ask anything according to His will.

When God delights in us:

- *He can use us*
- The one whose goal is the delight of God is living so that he is useful to Him.
- While God can use anyone He chooses, any way He chooses, He is depending upon us to do our part in reaching the lost.
- **1 Thessalonians 2:4**, *But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.*

When God delights in us:

- *He can use us*
- BUT, He cannot use the one living in rebellion or unrepentant sin.
 - How will the unholy man promote holiness?
 - How will the ungodly man promote godliness?
 - How will the unfaithful man promote faithfulness?
- He NEEDS us to live so that He delights in us! THEN He can use us.
- He opens doors: **Colossians 4:3, Acts 14:27, Revelation 3:8**

When God delights in us it
gives our lives quality,
meaning and direction.

**And it prepares us to spend
eternity with Him**

Is God's delight seen
in you?

Let us pray!