

In Whom Does God Delight?

Psalms 18:16-19

Defining the delight of God

- From the Hebrew, *haphets* – “be mindful of, attentive to, keep, protect” (BDB). “to incline to ... to bend” (Strong). To focus toward one.
- The word describes a person or thing one takes pleasure in or is pleased with.
- In our text, God takes pleasure in and is pleased with David.

Defining the delight of God

- Psalms 147:10-11 – “His delight ... is in those who fear him”
- I Kings 10:9 – “Blessed be the Lord your God, who has delighted in you ...”
- Isaiah 62:1-5 (of Israel) – “... you shall be called My Delight Is in Her ... the Lord delights in you”
- I Samuel 15:22-23 – “Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice ...”

Defining the delight of God

That God delights in us ought to be our goal

- II Corinthians 5:6-10 – “we make it our aim to please him”
- Colossians 1:10 – “... walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him”
- Psalms 37:3-6 – “Delight yourself in the Lord”
- Jeremiah 9:23-24 – “... in these things I delight, declares the Lord”

Examples of those in whom God delighted

Enoch

- Genesis 5:24 – “Enoch walked with God”
- Hebrews 11:5 – “... he was commended as having pleased God”

Job

- Job 1:8 – “a blameless and upright man”
- Job 2:3 – “He still holds fast his integrity”

Examples of those in whom God delighted

Abraham

- Genesis 12:1-4 – “So Abram went, as the Lord had told him”
- Hebrews 11:8 – “... Abraham obeyed when he was called ...”
- Genesis 22:12 – “I know that you fear God”
- Hebrews 11:17-19 – “... able even to raise him from the dead”
- James 2:21-24 – “Abraham believed God”

Examples of those in whom God delighted

Moses

- Numbers 12:6-8 – “With him I speak mouth to mouth”

David

- II Samuel 22:1-51 – David's Song of Deliverance (repeated as Psalms 18)
- Acts 13:22 – “... a man after my heart”

Examples of those in whom God delighted

Daniel

- Daniel 9:20-23 – “you are greatly loved”
 - cf. Daniel 10:11, 19 – “O Daniel, man greatly loved”

Jesus

- He is our perfect example
- Matthew 3:13-17 – “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased”
 - cf. Matthew 17:5; cf. II Peter 1:17
- Philippians 2:9-11 – “... God has highly exalted Him ...”

Promises to those who delight in Him

- Genesis 39:21-23 – “... the Lord was with Joseph ...”
- Numbers 14:8-9 – “he will bring us into this land and give it to us”
- Nehemiah 2:8 – “... the good hand of my God was upon me”

Promises to those who delight in Him

- I Peter 2:9-10 – “you are God's people”

Because we please Him:

- He can use us – Ephesians 2:10
- He will providentially provide what we need – Matthew 6:31-33
- He provides a way to deliver us from temptations – 1 Corinthians 10:13
- He opens doors for us – Acts 14:27
- He hears and answers our prayers – I Peter 3:10-12
- He helps us increase in our wisdom and faith – James 1:5-8
- He draws us closer to Him – James 4:7-8

What God Wants You To Do

Hear the Word of God

- James 1:21 – “... receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”

Believe the Gospel message about Jesus

- John 3:23-24 – “that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ”

Repent of your sins

- Acts 3:19 – “Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out”

What God Wants You To Do

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

- Romans 10:9-10 – “... with the mouth one confesses and is saved”

Be immersed in water

- Acts 2:38 – “Repent and be baptized every one of you ...”

Remain faithful

- Hebrews 3:12-14 – “... if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end”