

In Whom Does God Delight?

(Part 3)

II Samuel 22:20

Previously

- From II Samuel 22:17-28 (cf. Psalms 18:16-27)
- "Delight" – one in whom God is pleased and in whom He takes pleasure.
- God delighting in us ought to be our goal.
- Noted a few examples of men in whom God delighted
- And how He responds to those in whom He delights

Previously

Qualities which prompted God's delight.

Why?

- According to my righteousness
- According to the cleanness of my hands
- I have kept the ways of the Lord
- [I] have not wickedly departed
- I was blameless before him

Who?

- With the merciful you show yourself merciful
- With the purified you deal purely
- You save a humble people

When God Delights In Us

- What God does for us today is different than during Biblical times when miracles and direct intervention were needed at times
 - Hebrews 1:1-2 – "but in these last days ..."
- Anything He does today is related to our spiritual relationship with Him and/or providentially provided.
 - cf. 1 Corinthians 13:8-13 – "when the perfect comes"

When God Delights In Us

He draws near to us

- But we must first draw near to Him
 - James 4:8 – "he will draw near to you"
- I John 3:1 – "... called children of God"
- I John 1:7 – "we have fellowship ..."
- Psalms 145:18 – "The Lord is near to all who call on him"
- Revelation 3:20 – "I will come in to him"
- Hebrews 10:22-23 – "let us draw near"

When God Delights In Us

He strengthens us

- Not physical strength, but spiritual
- II Samuel 22:20 – "... into a broad place" (i.e. – stability)
- Psalms 1:1-3 – "... like a tree planted by streams of water ..."
- Philippians 4:13 – "I can do all things through him who strengthens me"

When God Delights In Us

He strengthens us

- This is about our resolve (i.e. – dedication)
- II Timothy 4:17-18 – “... that through me the message might be fully proclaimed”
- II Corinthians 12:10 – “... when I am weak, then I am strong”
- cf. I Corinthians 10:13 – “... provide the way of escape”

When God Delights In Us

He protects us

- God, as a loving father, protects us, his family
- II Thessalonians 3:3 – “... guard you against the evil one”
- I John 4:1-6 – “you are from God ...”
- Romans 8:31-39 – “... we are more than conquerors ...”
- II Peter 2:4-9 – “... rescue the godly ...”
- Galatians 1:3-4 – “... to deliver us ...”
- Matthew 6:13 – “... deliver us from evil”

When God Delights In Us

He gives us peace

- Philippians 4:6-7 – “... guard your hearts”
- Psalms 119:165 – “Great peace ...”
- Colossians 1:21-23 – “present you holy...”
- Proverbs 16:7 – “to be at peace with him”
- Romans 12:18 – “live peaceably with all”
- Hebrews 12:14 – “Strive for peace ...”
 - James 1:19-20 – “... quick to hear ...”
 - Romans 12:17-21 – “live peaceably ...”
 - Matthew 5:44 – “Love your enemies”

When God Delights In Us

He gives us peace

- Hebrews 12:14 – “Strive for peace ...”
- The directions God gives us for living peaceably with others include:
 - James 1:19-20 – “... quick to hear ...”
 - Romans 12:17-21 – “live peaceably ...”
 - Matthew 5:44 – “Love your enemies”
- John 14:27 – “Not as the world gives ...”
- Isaiah 26:3 – “... in perfect peace ...”
- II Thessalonians 3:16 – “the Lord of peace”

When God Delights In Us

He hears our prayers

- Prayer is a privilege of the saved. Though God hears everything, it is Christians to whom He pays attention
- 1 Peter 3:12 – “... his ears are open ...”
- James 5:15-16 – “The prayer of a righteous person has great power ...”
- Psalms 145:18-19 – “... hears their cry and saves them”
- I John 5:13-15 – “... if we ask anything according to his will he hears us”

When God Delights In Us

He can use us

- I Thessalonians 2:3-4 – “... to be entrusted with the gospel”
- Colossians 4:3 – “... declare the mystery of Christ”
- Acts 14:27 – “he had opened a door”
- cf. I Corinthians 10:31 – “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ”
- Revelation 3:8 – “I have set before you an open door”

Obeying The Gospel

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

- I John 3:23-24 – "... that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ ..."

Obeying The Gospel

Repent of your sins

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

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

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

Obeying The Gospel

Be immersed in water

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

Remain faithful

- I Corinthians 15:1-2 – "if you hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain"