

# happiness is...



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September 29

## TITLE: HAPPINESS—A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

*“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup> But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. <sup>3</sup> And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” (Psalm 1:1-3)*

## INTRODUCTION

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### 1. Happiness Is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s Grace

*“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.” (Psalm 16:11)*

#### A. His Grace \_\_\_\_\_ Us

*“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” (Luke 2:10)*

*“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:15)*

**Quote:** “Having plenty of things and in the midst of amiable friends, still I was not happy. The reason certainly was, I did not know God, the source of present as well as eternal happiness.”  
—John Wesley

#### FORGIVENESS BRINGS JOY

*“Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” (Proverbs 29:18)*

## A HOME IN HEAVEN BRINGS JOY

*“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”*  
(Revelation 21:4)

**Quote:** “God’s children, because of ‘the love of God in Christ to them...have joy and comfort—that joy that angels cannot give, and devils cannot take.’”—**English Nonconformist Minister Christopher Fowler (1610–1678)**

## B. His Grace \_\_\_\_\_ Us

*“Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”* (Nehemiah 8:10)

*“Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. <sup>11</sup> Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”* (James 5:10–11)

## 2. Happiness Is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a Believer

### A. Decide against a \_\_\_\_\_ Direction

*“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”* (1 John 2:15–17)

### THE COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY

**Quote:** “Believers and unbelievers alike recognize that there’s a negative form of happiness, which is all about self-gratification at others’ expense.” —**Randy Alcorn**

*“My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: <sup>16</sup> For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.” (Proverbs 1:15-16)*

#### THE WAY OF SINNERS

*“The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.” (Proverbs 4:19)*

#### THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL

*“Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly.” (Proverbs 3:34)*

**Quote:** “The blessed man does not, ‘Listen to the ungodly man, linger with the sinful man, laugh at the scornful man.”

—**John Phillips**

*“Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty.” (Job 5:17)*

## **B. Decide for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God**

*“This is the day which the Lord hath made;” (Psalm 118:24)*

#### DECIDE TO DELIGHT IN THE LAW OF GOD

**Quote:** “If the world is our main object of rejoicing, we can’t ‘rejoice always’ since there’s so much evil and suffering.”

*“Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.” (Jeremiah 15:16)*

*“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.” (John 13:17)*

*“Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” (Proverbs 29:18)*

#### DECIDE TO MEDITATE IN THE LAW OF GOD

*“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” (Joshua 1:8)*

*“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the*

*LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.” (Psalm 19:7-8)*

### 3. Happiness Is an \_\_\_\_\_ of Growth

#### A. We Are \_\_\_\_\_ Spiritually

WATER PICTURES THE HOLY SPIRIT

*“But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:14)*

WE MUST BE FILLED WITH THE WATER

#### B. We \_\_\_\_\_ the Fruit of the Spirit

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,<sup>23</sup> Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22-23)*

**Quote:** “There is nothing that more tends to strengthen the faith of the young believer than to hear the veteran Christian, covered with scars from the battle, testifying that the service of his Master is a happy service, and that, if he could have served any other master, he would not have done so, for His service is pleasant, and His reward everlasting joy.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

THE FRUIT OF LOST SOULS

*“He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” (Psalm 126:6)*

CONCLUSION \_\_\_\_\_

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