

PLEASURE

God **HAS PLEASURE** in uprightness...

1 Chronicles 29:17: I know also, my God, that Thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy Thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto Thee.

God **HAS PLEASURE** in the prosperity of His Saints...

Psalms 35:27: Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour My righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."

God **TAKES PLEASURE** in them that fear Him...

Psalms 147:11: The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

God **TAKES PLEASURE** in His people...

Psalms 149:4: For the LORD taketh pleasure in His people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

God **TAKES PLEASURE** in our redemption...

Isaiah 53:10: Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

Ephesians 1:5: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His Will,

God **TAKES PLEASURE** in giving us the kingdom...

Luke 12:32: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.

This is what the Lord has promised to those who love Him...

Psalms 16:11: Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy Presence fullness of joy; at Thy right Hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Psalms 36:8: They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of Thy house; and Thou shalt make them drink of the river of Thy pleasures.

God has NO PLEASURE in wickedness...

Psalms 5:4: For Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with Thee

God has NO PLEASURE in fools...

Ecclesiastes 5:4: When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for He hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

God has NO PLEASURE in the death of the unrighteous, or wicked...

Ezekiel 18:23: Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

Ezekiel 18:32: For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

Ezekiel 33:11: Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O House of Israel?

Philippians 2:13: For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.

2 Thessalonians 1:11: Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of His goodness, and the work of faith with power:

SINFUL PLEASURE SEEKERS...

➡ *1 Timothy 5:6: But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.*

- ➡ **James 5:5: Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.**
- ➡ **2 Peter 2:13: And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;**
- ➡ **Luke 8:14: And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.**
- ➡ **Titus 3:3: For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.**
- ➡ **Hebrews 11:25: Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;**

What is that sin in your life that you defend, that sin you coddle and that you don't think your life would be worthwhile without it; the sin that you first think about in the morning; that sin you last think about at the close of the day?

We see this in the life of Samson who set his affections on a woman named Delilah.

Judges 16:4-6:

⁴ And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

⁵ And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.

⁶ And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.

Samson continued playing around in his relationship with Delilah until he finally broke down and told her the source of his strength.

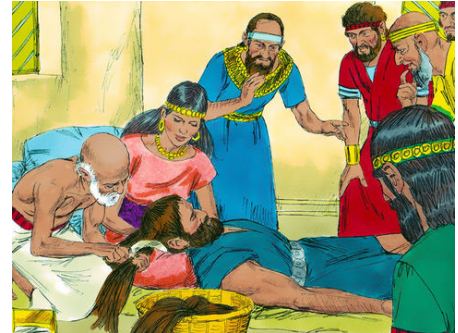
Judges 16:18-21:

18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

20 And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.



Jesus had this out with Peter after the Resurrection.

Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2 Corinthians 2:11: Lest satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices

Dr. Roland Hill was walking down the street in a country village in England and saw a drove of pigs following a man. This excited my curiosity. For, as you know, pigs are uncommonly queer animals to drive. If you want them to go one way, they will invariably take another. But this man seemed to have no difficulty. The pigs followed him, jostling one another and grunting after him as eager beavers. I followed on, and to my surprise I found they were going to the slaughter house. They went in and the door closed behind them.

I waited till the man came out, and asked him how he had managed to lead them so easily. The man laughed and replied: *“Maybe you did not see the bag of beans under my arm. I knew I would have a pretty hard time taking them there if I didn’t*

humor them a bit. So I got these beans which they are particularly fond of, and dropped them along the road. You saw how they scampered along picking up the beans, and never thinking they were going to their slaughter?”



“This is the way”, said Roland Hill, “the devil is leading many of you captive at his own will, down to Hell. He knows full well how to please you, and thereby leads you on without difficulty. He drips his beans of worldly pleasure and folly, until one day — and for some of you it will be very soon — the last bean will be picked up, and the gate of Hell will be shut behind you. Many of you are trudging behind old slewfoot with a pack on your back . . . marked ‘ETERNITY BOUND’”.

I am glad the Lord let me see how the devil was luring me on, and of my final destiny and doom. By the grace of God, I am now saved and following the Good Shepherd Who gave His life on Calvary for the sheep. The pleasures of sin are only for a season, and many of you are already burnt out on them. You are tired of the old life, and the devil’s bait is no longer pleasant as in your youth. I want to remind you that you will taste them for the last time one day, and then the agonies of Hell, the blackness of darkness, will begin forever.

Today, God is calling you in love to repent and turn from your wicked ways. His love yearns for your lost soul to redeem it and set you free. Christ so loved you and me that He left Heaven and came down here to die for our sins on the Cross and buy us back to God.

These popular hand-me-down religions cost nothing and lay no demands of separation from sinful pleasures on you. Not the Bible kind of religion, nor God-given faith.

Moses had the real deal when he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater treasure than all the pleasures of Egypt and came out from among them to be separated unto the Lord. The Gospel of the Good News of Christ Jesus will do the same for you.

Akron Shalom Bible Learning Center
www.AkronShalomMinistries.org