

Is God Happy With Me?

I. Introduction

- A. The first purpose of our life – to please God.** (Eph. 5:10 – “...*finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.*”)
- B. Our example – Noah.** (Gen. 6:8 – *Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*)
1. The world was totally given over to evil – except Noah.
 2. From the life of Noah we learn five actions that we can emulate to make God happy with us.

II. God is Happy When I:

A. Love Him Supremely

1. Noah walked with God (Gen. 6:9). He followed God’s will and kept a close relationship with God.
2. What then does God want from us as a pledge of our love? Sacrifices and offerings? God desires mercy and knowledge more than either of these (Hos. 6:6) God wants our love! It is His first and greatest commandment (Mt. 22:37,38).

B. Trust Him Completely

1. Even when God’s commands to Noah were not according to human wisdom, Noah trusted God implicitly. See Heb. 11:7. Noah had three opportunities to doubt:
 - a. He had never experienced rain (as indicated in Gen 2:5,6),
 - b. He lived hundreds of miles from any ocean, and
 - c. How could the entire animal kingdom ever be rounded up?
2. God was happy with Noah because of his unquestioning trust. (*The Lord takes pleasure in his worshippers, and in those whose hope is in his mercy.* (BBE), Ps. 147:11) This type of trust calls for faith – faith that God will keep His promises. “Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6).

C. Obey Him Sincerely, Enthusiastically, and Absolutely

1. In a word – wholeheartedly. Noah had to follow God’s instructions to the letter. (Gen. 6:22 - *Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.* (NKJV)) Noah overlooked none of God’s plan and completed it in the way God wanted it done.
2. Obedience without reservation or procrastination. Delayed obedience is disobedience! Some commands of God cannot even be understood unless they are first obeyed.
3. Partial obedience will not tide us over with God. The bible is not a Chinese menu, it is our guidebook. David said: *Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end.* (NKJV), Ps. 119:33). (*You see that a man's righteousness is judged by his works and not by his faith only.* (BBE), Jms. 2:24).
4. Obedience is proof of our love (Jn. 14:15).

D. Praise and Thank Him Continually

1. Noah’s first act after leaving the ark was to build an altar and worship God (Gen. 8:20).
2. In lieu of animal sacrifice the Christian is to offer praise (*Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.* (NKJV), Heb. 13:15.) The psalmist suggests that we offer the praise of thanksgiving and praise His name in song, rejoice in His presence and shout for joy. (Ps. 116:17; 69:30,31; 68:3.)

E. Use My Abilities

1. God told Noah and his family to replenish the earth and use the animals and land to live and prosper. But all of that would take work. Secular, manual, get your hands dirty, be pregnant for nine months, WORK. Ps. 37:23 - *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way.* (NKJV)
2. Excepting sin, all of our activities can be done to God’s glory – he is happy when you use the abilities He has blessed you with a long as you are working according to his will.
3. He expects you to be you and me to be me. (*Woe to him who strives with his Maker, an earthen vessel with the potter! Does the clay say to him who fashions it, 'What are you making'? or*

'Your work has no handles'? (RSV), Isa. 45:9.) There are no unspiritual abilities, just ones that are misused. Think about it!

III. Conclusion

A. God is happy with me as His child when I develop and grow according to His plan.

1. He enjoys seeing me at every stage of my development and is saddened only when I stop taking proper nourishment and stop growing (1 Pet. 2:2; 1 Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:12,13.)
2. He will not expect more than he knows we can give (*For he has knowledge of our feeble frame; he sees that we are only dust.* (BBE) Ps. 103:14)

B. Is making God happy your deepest desire?

1. This was Paul's goal regardless of where he was located – (Therefore we are also laboring to be well-pleasing to Him, whether at home or away from home. (MKJV) 2 Cor. 5:9.)
2. How much pleasure is God getting out of your life?
3. Can you be a 21st century Noah – he is looking for persons made of the same mettle – (Ps. 14:2 - *The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God.* (NKJV))
4. Our personal spiritual happiness hinges on whether or not God is happy with us!

Adapted from Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life* – Day 9.