

The Key to True Happiness Jeremiah 9:23-24

Our own achievements ought not be the source of our happiness

“This is what the Lord says: The wise man must not boast in his wisdom; the strong man must not boast in his strength; the wealthy man must not boast in his wealth.” (Jeremiah 9:23, HCSB)

THREE COMMON SOURCES OF HUMAN HAPPINESS

1. Wisdom (skills, intelligence, experience) Wise
2. Strength (physical, political, military) Health
3. Riches (monetary, relational) Wealth

God says that the only source of true happiness in my life is found in Him.

Knowing God ought to be the source of our happiness (24)

“But the one who boasts should boast in this, that he understands and knows Me — that I am Yahweh, showing faithful love, justice, and righteousness on the earth, for I delight in these things. This is the Lord’s declaration.” (Jeremiah 9:24, HCSB)

KNOWING GOD IN A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BRINGS TRUE HAPPINESS

1. God delights in faithful love. This is basis of the relationship

“Who is a God like You, removing iniquity and passing over rebellion for the remnant of His inheritance? He does not hold on to His anger forever, because He delights in faithful love.” (Micah 7:18, HCSB)

“For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, HCSB)

“He said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39, HCSB)

2. God delights in justice: Stipulations of the relationship

“This is My Servant; I strengthen Him, this is My Chosen One; I delight in Him. I have put My Spirit on Him; He will bring justice to the nations.” (Isaiah 42:1, HCSB)

“For I desire loyalty and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.” (Hosea 6:6, HCSB)

3. God delights in Righteousness: Fulfillment of the relationship

““The days are coming” —this is the Lord’s declaration— “when I will raise up a Righteous Branch of David. He will reign wisely as king and administer justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. This is what He will be named: Yahweh Our Righteousness.” (Jeremiah 23:5–6, HCSB)

“While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said: This is My beloved Son. I take delight in Him. Listen to Him!” (Matthew 17:5, HCSB)