

Happiness in the Lord

Introduction

Proverbs 28:14 Happy is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

1. **Christians should be the happiest people on earth. Being around other Christians gives us great joy!**
2. **As we realize that we have a heavenly Father who is waiting to bring us to His eternal home – it should thrill us.**
 - A. **I have put together six things that gives us reason to be so happy in Christ as we look forward to being with our Father.**

Trusting in God

1. **The Christian puts his trust in God and as a result has a source of strength and delight that unbelievers do not understand.**

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

Proverbs 16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good, and whoever trusts in the LORD, *happy* is he.

Relishing the Scriptures

1. **The Psalmist wrote:**
Psalms 1:1-2

Psalms 119:103 **How sweet are Your words to my taste**, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but **happy is he who keeps the law.**

2. **The sacred scriptures give hope, comfort, and gladness to lovers of truth.**

Living Righteously

- 1. Again from the book of Psalms we read:
Psalms 32:10-11**

Psalms 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and trust in Him. And all the upright in heart shall glory.

- 2. The New Testament teaches man what he must do and the Christian loves to do it!**

Titus 2:12 teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts**, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

- 3. Peter writes:**

1 Pet 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed (HAPPY - KJV). "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."

- A. Clean living contributes to deep rooted joy and contentment!**

- 1) You have nothing to hide, respect will be gained.**

Worshiping God Regularly

- 1. Worship itself is a delight to every Christian, because it is through worship to God that our hearts are lifted. David said:
Psalms 96:9-11**

Psalms 122:1 I was **glad** when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

- 2. Worship is for the glory of God and the happiness of man.**

- A. What a joy it is to be able to worship our creator, because we know that someday we will be with Him in the eternal heaven.**

Keeping a Clean Conscience

- 1. When before Felix, Ananias the high priest, and the Jewish elders, Paul remarked:**

Acts 24:16 This being so, I myself **always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.**

- 2. Timothy was instructed to:**

1 Timothy 1:19 have faith and a good conscience.....

- 3. There is happiness to those who can and do worship God with a pure conscience.**
 - A. A guilty conscience causes one to be miserable. The happy Christian lives in good conscience knowing that they are in submission to the teaching of God.**

Staying Busy in Constructive Work

- 1. Idleness breeds displeasure, restlessness, despondency, and much mischief.**
- 2. The Christian knows that happiness comes to the individual who works persistently, consistently, and diligently.**
 - A. The happy Christian is not slothful in business, but “*fervent in spirit*” as they serve the Lord (Rom 12:11).**
- 3. Effort and accomplishment bring the inward pleasure of fulfillment. Concentration on beneficial work keeps the mind away from thoughts that are detrimental.**
 - A. That is why prayer is so important. “*Pray without ceasing.*”**
- 4. That is why all Christians are encouraged to:**

1 Corinthians 15:58.... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

