

Pleased and Pleasing

John 8:28 Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am *he*, and *that* I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. **29** And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that **please him.**

1. God was already pleased with Jesus

- a. Jesus relationship was not a performance based relationship **Matthew 3:17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. **Matthew 17:5** While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.
- b. God couldn't love Jesus more
- c. Jesus couldn't do anything to make God love Him more nor could Jesus do anything to make God love Him less
- d. Jesus was God in human flesh

- e. How can you be more loved and accepted than to be the person
- f. There is a great lesson here for us if we can understand how the Son who pleased the Father sought to please the Father
 - i. We know that God was already pleased with Jesus yet **29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.**
 - ii. Doing God's will for His life meant more to Jesus than His food **John 4:34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.**
 - iii. His purpose in life was to please His Father **John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.**
 - iv. He used His obedience as a way to show the world that He loved the Father **John 14:31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.**

2. God is already pleased with you

- a. Your relationship with God is not a performance based relationship. It is a grace based relationship.
- Ephesians 2:8-9** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- b. He loved you when you didn't deserve to be loved
- i. While you were yet a sinner **Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- ii. While you were ungodly **Romans 5:6** For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.
- iii. When you didn't love Him **I John 4:19** We love him, because he first loved us.
- c. There is nothing you can do to make Him love you more and there is nothing you can do to make Him love you less
- i. He has already given His Son for you **Romans 8:32** He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

- ii. If you fail, where sin abounds grace does much more abound **Romans 5:20** Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
 - iii. You are already accepted in the beloved **Ephesians 1:6** To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
 - iv. You have a new past, present and future
 - v. You are in Christ
 - d. They that are in the flesh cannot please God-you have allowed that to make you think often that you are not pleasing **Romans 8:7-9** Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. **8** So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. **9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
3. The secret to being pleasing when He is already pleased
- a. Jesus did not live for Himself **Romans 8:7-9** For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

- b. Not my will but thine [Luke 22:42](#) Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.
- c. You are not to live for yourself or to do your will either
- i. It was Paul's prayer that his people would seek to please God more and more [Colossians 1:10](#) That ye might walk worthy of the Lord **unto all pleasing**, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
 - ii. Even obeying our parents pleases God and we want to please Him [Colossians 3:20](#) Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.
 - iii. In our preaching we are to seek to please God
[I Thessalonians 2:4](#) But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; **not as pleasing men, but God**, which trieth our hearts
 - iv. It should be our daily goal to please God
[I Thessalonians 2:4](#) Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

- v. When we live out faith in our lives we please Him
Hebrews 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that **he pleased God**. **6** But without faith *it is* impossible to **please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- vi. Be a giver and please God **Hebrews 13:16** But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.
- vii. We just love to please God with our lives **I John 3:22**
And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

4. The take home lesson for this verse

- a. God is pleased with you but that would never be an excuse to take advantage of His grace
- b. If you are loved and love someone you want to please them more than life itself

- c. We do not have to live under legalism where we have a list of rules to make sure He is pleased with us
- d. We do not have a license to sin where we don't care any more since we know that He is pleased
- e. You live in this tension everyday with the ones that you love and trust
- f. Jesus of all people knew that the Father was pleased with Him but He wanted to please the Father
- g. I would worry about you if you didn't want to please the Father
- h. There is a balance here