

Happy Infants – Part 2

Luke 10:17-24; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 5-14-17

Today: Happy Mother's Day

The role and significance of mothering has been highlighted by many people.

We need to remember that God created mothers and He created mothers so that we could know and see Him! (1 Thessalonians 2:7-9)

- Wise = Proud (reject the Word of God)
- Infant = Humble (take God at His Word)

1. Happiness in God (joy) requires a *secure* future. (17-20)

True happiness rejoices in the promise of God for our future.

The disciples were excited about their experience of being able to cast out demons but Jesus tells them not to rejoice most about this. Why?

- You can cast out demons and not be saved. (Matthew 7:21-23)
- Casting out demons is a temporal, earthly thing that will not last.
- Not every believer is given this power and experience.

Jesus commands that they rejoice. (Philippians 4:4) Jesus commands that they rejoice in the reality that they have a home in heaven. (Psalm 16:11) This home in heaven was determined before the foundation of the world. (Revelation 13:8; 17:8)

Application: Our happiness/joy must focus on the future that God has promised us, not on the difficulties of the present. (2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Hebrews 12:1-3)

The implication: you won't find joy and peace and happiness in the present by simply focusing on the present. The idea that we can and should is what fuels a relentless pursuit of present pleasures at whatever cost to our future.

2. Happiness in God (joy) requires a *settled* past. (21-22)

True happiness is rests in the revelation of God regarding our past.

Jesus was 'full of the Joy of the Holy Spirit.' 'I praise You' means 'I agree gladly' God has chosen to reveal the truth of the Kingdom of God to the humble and not the proud. (John 3:3, 5,

8) The kingdom of God was being revealed through the ministry of Jesus in casting out demons and healing as well as proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. (Matthew 12:28)

The enjoyment of the kingdom of God could only happen through union with Jesus to whom 'all things had been handed over.' 'All things' refer to the future (John 17:10) and the past (John 3:34-35; 4:29; 5:19-24) and the present (Romans 8:28).

The Father reveals Jesus and the kingdom to sinners and Jesus reveals the Father to sinners. The implication is that 'no one' comes to be an 'infant' and receives the revelation of the Father and Son except by sovereign grace. (Matthew 16:15-17; Ephesians 2:1-3)

Application: Jesus' Person and work is the key to our enjoyment of the kingdom of God and therefore, our past sin need not derail our present happiness in God. (Romans 8:1)

We must fight sin in our lives but we must see all our sin as forgiven because of the past finished work of Jesus! (John 8:11)

3. Happiness in God (joy) requires a 'seen' present. (23-24)

True happiness sees the activity of God in our present.

'Blessed' means truly happy. These disciples saw the miracles and work of the Messiah that David and Isaiah and other godly men of the past who prophesied about the coming Messiah longed to see but didn't.

The disciples saw the same miracles that the people in Capernaum and Chorazin and Bethsaida saw.

But the disciples saw the activity of God in them in a way that changed their lives.

Application: We don't see the ministry of Jesus and His miracles today like they did, but we can still see the work of God all around us.

Our happiness will be shaped not only by our view of the future and our view of the past but also by our view of the present:

Do I see the work of God in and through all things to keep His promises and to love me to Himself? (Romans 5:3-5; 8:28; Psalm 119:68; Job 42:1-3)