



**Recovering the heart of true
Christian ministry and service.
~ IS GOD PLEASED WITH YOU? ~**

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Target audience ~ 1

This message is for professing Christians.

To those who consider themselves accountable to God by virtue of the fact that they belong to God.

Psalm 100:3 New King James Version

Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Target audience ~ 2

1 Corinthians 6:20

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

These two passages, together with my sermon texts sets the scene and provides the perimeters of what I would like to share with you.

One sure way of pleasing God is to glorify Him in our bodies and in our spirits. This should be our delight.

An assertion

I would like to make this assertion:

“In order to truly desire or find the need to discover or rediscover the heart of true Christian service, ministry and worship one must first know the God to whom service is being provided as this will concentrate the mind.”

Sermon text ~ 1

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 11

1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Sermon text ~ 2

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 11 *continued*

6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

A question for you please

Is God pleased with you?



**Do you think that
God is pleased with
you?
How sensitive are you
to God?**

Pleasing God is a question of sensitivity

Some people can be quite sensitive in their relationships.

The sensitivity is based on the person or thing to which they relate and is often determined by the value they place on the person or object in question.

This is what the Bible says on the matter.

**"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:21**

A rather staggering statement

5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Any serious minded person would have to sit up when they hear this statement.

The consequences of not pleasing God are rather dire.

Do you now understand the reason for my subject, please?

Is God pleased with you? Of Jesus Christ God said “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)

Pleasing God – The two main competitors

The scriptures have a lot to say on the subject of pleasing God.

Pleasing God is not an easy task as there are two serious challengers or competitors to this vocation or lifestyle. These are the two serious and always active contenders:

- 1. Pleasing ourselves – Me, mine and I**
- 2. Pleasing men (and women)**

Please notice that pleasing God is a lifestyle or vocation and never a put on put off.

There are dangerous variants to these two competitors.

Let us learn from Enoch. Walk with God

Genesis 5:24

Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

To what and to what tune are you dancing your dance of life?

Has any human being got you on a leash?

Men pleasers can never be God pleasers because they put men first. They fear men and women more than they fear God.

Whose approval are you seeking?

Galatians 1:10

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Let us restate this verse as it is rather important.

- 1. For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God?**
- 2. Or am I trying to please man?**
- 3. If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

What a staggering statement?

Is God pleased with you?



**If I were still trying
to please man, I
would not be a
servant of Christ.**

How do you serve? ~ 1

Ephesians 6:5 – 8 (New King James Version)

5 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;

6 not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

How do you serve? ~ 2

Please remember what our subject is:

Recovering the heart of true Christian ministry and service.

Please throw in “true worship” if you please.

Everything we do we must do as our worship to God. No compartmentalisation.

Worship or “worth-ship” should be in all that we do.

“Not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.” Ephesians 6:6

What is your aim in life? ~ 1

2 Corinthians 5:6 - 11

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

What is your aim in life? ~ 2

2 Corinthians 5:9

- So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. (English Standard Version)
- So we aspire to please Him, whether we are here in this body or away from it. (Berean Standard Bible)
- Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (New King James Version)

Be aware of the God you are serving ~ 1

Let me remind you of my assertion at the start of this message as I seek to bring this sermon to a close.

“In order to truly desire or find the need to discover or rediscover the heart of true Christian service, ministry and worship one must first know the God to whom service is being provided as this will concentrate the mind.”

This sermon closes but the message of it must ring in your heart and inform your service for the King and His people.

Let me therefore remind you of the God we claim to serve.

Be aware of the God you are serving ~ 2

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:11

Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord,

Hebrews 12:29

For our God is a consuming fire.

Pleasing God = God is with you = Power

John 8:29

"And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Pleasing God secures His presence! You will never be alone.

Conclusion

1 Corinthians 10:6, 11

6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

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