

WHEN A MAN'S WAYS PLEASE THE LORD

PROVERBS 16:7, COLOSSIANS 1:10,
1 JOHN 3:22

Text: Proverbs 16:7

Proverbs 16:7

⁷ When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Colossians 1:10

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;

1 John 3:22

²² And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Introduction:

What a tremendous verse this is. However with all of potential we find in this verse there is attached to it a prerequisite.

Who do you strive to please the most in your life; your spouse, your family, your children, your boss, yourself? It seems today that many strive to please man more

than God! But the chief aim of the Child of God should be to please his Heavenly Father!

In the book of Colossians 1:9-14, Paul offered a petition unto God for the Church at Colosse. He had heard a good report of them from Epaphras, their Pastor. The aim of Paul's petition for them is found in verse 10.

Colossians 1:10

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;

The aim of believers in all their worthy conduct should be to please God in every way; to anticipate and do His wishes in every aspect of life!

1. REVIEW OF THIS ORDER

A. What is it that pleases God?

1. Reverence to His Name

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man. ¹⁴ For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

- For us to please God we must be in awe of His glory and Power.

Psalms 113:1-9

¹ Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. ² Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. ³ From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name *is* to be praised. ⁴ The LORD *is* high above all nations, *and* his glory above the heavens. ⁵ Who *is* like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high, ⁶ Who humbleth *himself* to behold *the things that are* in heaven, and in the earth! ⁷ He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, *and* lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; ⁸ That he may set *him* with princes, *even* with the princes of his people. ⁹ He maketh the barren woman to keep house, *and to be* a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD.

- For us to reverence God as we should we must:

- See Him for Who He is

Isaiah 6:1-4

¹ In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. ² Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. ³ And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory. ⁴ And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

- See ourselves as what we are

Isaiah 6:5

⁵ Then said I, Woe *is* me! for I am undone; because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

When these things take place then and only then can God greatly use us in His Work.

Psalms 147:11

¹¹ The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

2. Remember His Goodness

Psalms 103:1-5

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *ble*ss his holy name. ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: ³ Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; ⁴ Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; ⁵ Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

3. Reliance On His Spirit

Galatians 5:16

¹⁶ *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

B. What is it that displeases God?

1. A Lack of Contentment

Numbers 11:1-3

¹ And *when* the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard *it*; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the

LORD burnt among them, and consumed *them that were* in the uttermost parts of the camp. ² And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched. ³ And he called the name of the place Taberah: because the fire of the LORD burnt among them.

2. A Lack of Compassion

1 John 3:14-17

¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

¹⁵ Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

3. A Lack of Consecration

Romans 12:1-2

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

4. A Lack of Vision

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the

race that is set before us, ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

C. Who Pleases God

1. The man who relies on God and His mercy

Psalms 147:11

¹¹ The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. The man who praises God continually

Philippians 4:4

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice.

Psalms 34:1-3

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth. ² My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad. ³ O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

3. The man that practices holiness and keeps His Word

1 John 3:18-24

¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but

in deed and in truth. ¹⁹ And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. ²⁰ For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God. ²² And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. ²³ And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. ²⁴ And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

1 Peter 1:15-16

¹⁵ But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; ¹⁶ Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

4. A man who lives a life of sacrifice unto God

Hebrews 13:15-16

¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name. ¹⁶ But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Luke 14:33

³³ So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 9:23-24

²³ And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

2. RESULTS OF OBEDIENCE

Proverbs 16:7

⁷When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Close:

All of us desire for our enemies to be at peace with us. There is a way to insure that, it is when our ways please the Lord.