

“Does God Want Me To Be Happy?”

A lot of people believe that God wants them to be happy. Although this argument is not necessarily flawed, it is oversimplified. God, as a loving Father, wants His children to be happy, but He first and foremost wants them to be obedient. When one is obedient, then one will be happy. Several examples in the Bible prove this thesis.

- Abraham (Genesis 22:4-5). He was commanded to offer his only son of promise, Isaac. This would not have made him happy.
- Joseph (Genesis 37:23-36). Although it was part of God’s providence, Joseph being sold into slavery would have been a very unhappy time in his life.
- Moses (Exodus 3:1-4:17). God chose Moses to lead to the children of Israel out of Egypt -- a noble assignment. However, it would be a difficult and unhappy duty.
- Job (Job 2:4-6). God allowed Satan to test Job by taking away all that he had which caused great suffering and anguish.
- Jonah (Jonah 1:2-3; 4:1). Jonah was told to go to his mortal enemy, Nineveh, and preach repentance. Their salvation was certainly not joyful to them.
- Eunuch (Acts 8:39). This man went on his way rejoicing because he had been baptized into Christ. He had found the greatest of all blessings!

God never changes (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8). If God acted this way so many years ago, He still acts this way today. God does not primarily want you to be happy; He wants you to be obedient (Hebrews 5:8-9). Obey the gospel and you will find a unsurpassing joy! Please contact us if you would like to study further.

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