

HAPPINESS

SCRIPTURE - Ecclesiastes 3:12–13 I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, ¹³ and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.

INTRODUCTION

- A. DOES ANYONE HERE NOT WANT TO BE HAPPY?
- B. ENJOYMENT IS THE GIFT OF GOD
 - 1. Ecclesiastes 3:12–13 I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, ¹³ and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.
 - 2. Ecclesiastes 8:15 So I commended enjoyment, because a man has nothing better under the sun than to eat, drink, and be merry; for this will remain with him in his labor *all* the days of his life which God gives him under the sun.
- C. HAPPINESS IS GOOD FOR US - Proverbs 17:22 A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.
- D. WE WILL BE LOOKING AT HAPPINESS AND JOY FROM THE BOOKS OF PROVERBS AND ECCLESIASTES.

1. Wisdom

- A. Proverbs 3:13 Happy *is* the man *who* finds wisdom, And the man *who* gains understanding;
- B. Proverbs 3:18 She *is* a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy *are all* who retain her.
- 2. **Mercy** - Proverbs 14:21 He who despises his neighbor sins; But he who has mercy on the poor, happy *is* he.
- 3. **Trust** - Proverbs 16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy *is* he.
- 4. **Reverence** - Proverbs 28:14 Happy *is* the man who is always reverent, But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.
- 5. **Obedient** - Proverbs 29:18 Where *there is* no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy *is* he who keeps the law.
- 6. **Peacemakers** - Proverbs 12:20 Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy.
- 7. **Encourage** - Proverbs 15:23 A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word *spoken* in due season, how good *it is!*
- 8. **Justice** - Proverbs 21:15 *It is* a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction *will come* to the workers of iniquity.
- 9. **Goodness** - Ecclesiastes 2:24–26 Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God. ²⁵ For who can eat, or who can have enjoyment, more than I? ²⁶ For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind.
- 10. **Joy** - Ecclesiastes 5:20 For he will not dwell unduly on the days of his life, because God keeps *him* busy with the joy of his heart.
- 11. **Prosperity & Adversity** - Ecclesiastes 7:14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other, So that man can find out nothing that will come after him.
- 12. **Acceptance** - Ecclesiastes 9:7 Go, eat your bread with joy, And drink your wine with a merry heart; For God has already accepted your works.

CONCLUSION

- A. ARE YOU HAPPY?
- B. GOD WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE HERE ON EARTH.
- C. HE WANTS EVEN MORE FOR YOU TO LIVE WITH HIM ETERNALLY IN HEAVEN.
- D. Luke 12:29–32 “And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. ³⁰ For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. ³¹ But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. ³² “Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.