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DELIGHTING IN GOD

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1

Delight

Psalm 37:4 (NASB)
4 Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

The Psalmist reveals to us a profound spiritual principle leading to a believer receiving their heart's desire. It is simply delighting oneself in the Lord. What does this entail? He starts with an encouragement not to fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong, but to trust in the Lord and do good. Then he followed that with taking delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. There are some key words of encouragement that follow thereafter: 'commit your way to the Lord', 'be still before the Lord', 'wait patiently', 'refrain from anger and turn from wrath', 'be meek', 'hope in the Lord', 'take refuge in God'. What do we learn from all this? The Psalmist is encouraging us to align our desires with God's and submit to His ways rather than to anyone else. We must find joy in submitting to the Lord, to His will and ways, and in trusting His work in our lives. We must find joy in His Word in reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture. He must find joy in worshipping God alone or with others out of a deep admiration of His character and power. We are surrounded by things that always remind us of Him. He must be the focus of everything we do, in word or deed.

2

His Purpose, My Delight

Philippians 2:13 (ABCE)
For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Paul gave a revelation to the believers in Philippi when he wrote to them that for it is God who is all the while effectually at work in them, energizing and creating in them the power and desire, both to will and to work for His good pleasure, satisfaction, and delight. This is the result of delighting in God. God begins to transform you to desire what He desires, and with time and patience, the desires of your heart mature and align with His. This is not brainwashing or coercion, but as your focus becomes pleasing God in everything, your desires become His as well. You find joy in doing His will rather than in doing what you would otherwise have done out of your own desire. This is the measure of maturity in Christ, that God's desire becomes your desire. That is the transformation that leads to conforming to the image of Christ, Who showed us what it ultimately means to delight in God. He taught His disciples to pray, 'not my will, but your will be done'. How much do we delight in the Lord? Do we want His will to always be our will? Do we want His desire to always be our desire? May we depend on God to work in us to will and act to fulfill His desire. Amen!

3