

**GOD WANT US HAPPY SOMETIMES**

1. **God Is Pleased When His People Respond To His Goodness By Being Joyful And Glad Of Heart.**  
*2 Chronicles 7:10*—“*And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent the people away into their tents, glad and merry in heart for the goodness that the LORD had shewed unto David, and to Solomon, and to Israel his people.*”
  
2. **God Has So Designed Us That A Happy Heart Promotes Good Health.**  
*Proverbs 15:13*—“*A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.*”  
  
*Proverbs 15:15*—“*All the days of the afflicted are evil: But he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.*”  
  
*Proverbs 17:22*—“*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: But a broken spirit drieth the bones.*”
  
3. **God Expects His People To Be Glad When He Does Great Things For Them.**  
*Psalm 126:1-3*—“*1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, We were like them that dream. 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, And our tongue with singing: Then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them. 3 The LORD hath done great things for us; Whereof we are glad.*”
  
4. **People Who Walk In The Lord’s Ways Are Described As “Blessed”— A Term That Means “Happy.”**  
*Psalm 1:1-2*—“*1 Blessed is the man That walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; And in his law doth he meditate day and night.*”  
  
*Psalm 2:12b*— *Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.*

- Psalm 32:1*—“*Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*”
- Psalm 84:12*—“*O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.*”
- Proverbs 8:32*—“*Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: For blessed are they that keep my ways.*”
- Proverbs 8:34*—“*Blessed is the man that heareth me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.*”
- Matthew 5:3-11 (The Beatitudes) Cf. Luke 6:20-22*

**GOD WANTS US SAD SOMETIMES**

1. **God has so designed us that we will grow spiritually through sorrow and mourning more than we will through happiness.**  
*(Ecclesiastes 7:2-4)*
  
2. **The Right Kind Of Sadness Now Can Produce Happiness Later.**  
*Matthew 5:4*—“*Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*”  
  
*Luke 6:21*—“*Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh.*”  
  
*James 4:6-10*
  
3. **Having A Serious Demeanor Is A Qualification For Church Leadership.**  
*1 Timothy 3:2*—“*A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*”  
  
*Titus 1:8*—“*But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;*”

## ARE WE TO BE HAPPY OR SAD?

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4

### 4. Christians Have Been Called Not Only To Believe In Christ But Also To Suffer For Him.

*Philippians 1:29*– “For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;”

#### EXPLANATION

*Happiness* usually refers to *the good feelings we have when all is going well*. It is a valid emotion. And it is generally experienced by every person who *trusts in the LORD* and *has made GOD his LORD*.

*Proverbs 16:20b*– “...And whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.”

*Psalms 144:15b*– “...Yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.”

But sometimes we can become *spiritually superficial* when all goes well.

When that happens, *sorrow and mourning* may be better for us.

*Ecclesiastes 7:2–3*– “2 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. 3 Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better.”

*James 4:9*– “Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.”

The *sorrow and pain* can lead to *joy*, which is *an emotion so deep that it stays with us even through tears of grief or pain*. Unpleasant or somber experiences often mature us, develop our character, and make us good witnesses and effective leaders. A willingness to grieve in behalf of others who are caught in sin is not only a mark of mature love but also of Christlikeness.

*2 Corinthians 2:4*–“For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.”

**GOD** finds pleasure in giving us reason to be *happy*. But since **HE** is concerned with our eternal welfare, **HE** desires to see in us the proper *sorrow for sin* that is necessary for *lasting peace and happiness* both for ourselves and others.

## ARE WE TO BE HAPPY OR SAD?

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4

#### CONCLUSION

1. We must moderate our desire for the things that promote our *happiness* with the realization that *being all GOD wants us to be* is more important than being *happy*.
2. We must view our *trials and troubles* as temporary and as designed for our eternal good.
3. We must never allow those things that bring us *joy* to make us *complacent or self-sufficient*.