“I DELIGHT TO DO THY WILL, O MY GOD”  
Ps. 40:8

INTRODUCTION:

1. DELIGHT means: “To be pleased with”, to “have pleasure”, “enjoyment”.
2. We find it difficult to do the things in which we find no pleasure.
3. We find it is EASY to do the things we enjoy and delight in.
4. Happy is the man who enjoys doing RIGHT.
5. Not many people will continue year after year doing the things they dislike.
6. If doing God’s WILL is distasteful, and requires a lot of determination to do it over a long period of time, the average person will not succeed.

   (1) This is the reason that many fail.
7. So, it is very important that we learn the value of finding DELIGHT in doing God’s will, and how we may cultivate that delight.
8. Matt. 5:6; I Pet. 2:2; Ps. 1:2; Ps. 119: 97, 24 “…thy testimonies also are my delight…”

I. DELIGHT WILL CAUSE US TO SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES. Acts 17:11
1. Our text pictures a man who finds his chief delight in doing the will of God. Ps. 40:8 “I delight to do thy will, O my God:…” John 15: 10
2. Too many people look upon their relationship to the church as a necessary, solemn duty to be ENDURED; they know that a certain amount of time, effort and money must be expended in that direction, but it is not their chief delight. Matt. 6:33; Ps. 122:1
3. Their chief delight is the FIELDS of recreation, entertainment, annual vacations, and other things.
4. Those who delight in doing the will of God:
   (1) Will constantly STUDY the Word. II Tim. 2:15; I Tim. 4:13; I Pet. 2:2
   (2) The Word is sweet to his taste. Ps. 119: 103; Ps. 19:10; I Pet. 2:3
(3) They SEARCH the scriptures daily. Acts 17:11; Eph. 5:17

(4) They will be able to discern both good and evil. Heb. 5:14; Is. 5:20

5. Those who delight in doing the will of God will desire to always fulfill their responsibility to the church and: (Ps. 27:4)

(1) ATTEND Bible study. II Pet. 1:5 “Add knowledge”; Ps. 119; 104

(2) WORSHIP. John 4: 23 – 24

(3) INVITE others to come. Rev. 22: 17

(4) GIVE. I Cor. 16:2

(5) ENCOURAGE the work. Acts 14:22

II. DELIGHT WILL REMOVE DISTRACTIONS

1. The WORLD and the DEVIL will surround us with distracting elements to keep us from doing the will of God.

   (1) A man’s business and work may become a distracting element. Mk. 4:19

   (2) The pleasures of this life. Lk. 8:14; II Tim. 3:4 “Lovers of pleasures”

   (3) Social life. I Cor. 15:33

   (4) Family. Lk. 9: 59 – 62; Matt. 10:37

   (5) Sinful things within themselves:

       A. Drinking. I Pet. 4:3

       B. Fornication. I Cor. 6:18; I Thess. 4:3

       C. Gambling – gambling is where you pay so much to play, in hope of winning a great deal more.

           a. Gambling produces nothing – it has no productive purposes

           b. What about the giving of prizes to promote business? A firm gives away goods for advertising and receives a good return in advertising value; commerce and industry are promoted.
D. Murmuring and strife. Phil. 2: 12, 14

2. A genuine delight in doing the will of God can guard us from these distracting influences.

   (1) Ps. 119:11 “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee…”

3. Delight in doing God’s will not only helps us meet temptation, it removes them from us.

4. If we delight in doing the will of God, we will not allow distracting things to get in our way.

III. DELIGHT IN DOING GOD’S WILL, WILL INSURE CONSISTENCY.

1. Humanity is prone to be inconsistent – hot today and cold tomorrow.

2. Laodicea – lukewarm. Rev. 3: 14 – 19

3. Ephesus had left its first love. Rev. 2: 1 – 5

4. Delight in doing the will of God helps in keeping us from feeling the pull of the world.

5. Finding our pleasure in doing the will of God, we will be consistent in doing it.

IV. DELIGHT WILL INSURE ABUNDANT SERVICE.

1. People who delight in doing God’s will can be found regularly in the assemblies. Heb. 10:25

2. Those who do not delight will come from time to time out of a sense of duty.

3. Those who delight in doing the will of God will GIVE LIBERALLY of their money for the support of the gospel. II Cor. 8:2; II Cor. 9:7

4. One who delights in doing the will of God will accept a place of responsibility in the church.

V. DELIGHT CAN BE CULTIVATED.

1. This delight is obtained by reading and studying the Bible, thinking the thoughts of God.

   (1) I Pet. 2:2; II Tim. 2:15; I Tim. 4:13
(2) Ps. 1:2

2. Frequent prayer helps us cultivate a delight in doing God’s will.

   (1) I Thess. 5:17
   (2) II Thess. 3:1
   (3) Phil. 4:6
   (4) James 1:4

3. We cultivate delight by doing the will of God. Matt. 7:21

   (1) We do not learn to delight in doing the will of God by watching others do it. James 1:22–25
   (2) We must be busy doing. I Cor. 15:58; Phil. 2:12

CONCLUSION:

1. Can you truly say to God, “I delight to do thy will, O my God”?

2. Are you here and have never done the will of God?

3. Won’t you start now?