INTRODUCTION
1. This verse tells us that the people of God are the objects of His delight.
2. Just as His people in the Old Testament were the objects of His delight, so are His people in the New Testament.
4. By His Son He redeemed them from all iniquity -- Tit. 2:14.
5. His people in the New Testament are called:
   (1) A chosen generation or race
   (2) A royal priesthood
   (3) A peculiar people
   (4) An Holy Nation
   (5) The church -- Eph. 1:22
   (6) The Body -- Eph. 5:23
   (7) The Kingdom -- Col. 1:13
   (8) The Israel of God -- Gal. 6:16

I. LET US DESCRIBE THE PEOPLE OF GOD:
1. They bear the Lord's name.
   (1) He bought them with a price -- His blood -- I Cor. 6: 20; I Pet. 1: 18 - 19.
   (2) They are called:
      1. The church of Christ -- Rom. 16:16
      2. The church of God -- I Cor. 1:2
      3. The temple of God -- I Cor. 3:16 - 17
   (3) The individual disciples are called CHRISTIANS -- Acts 11: 26; I Pet. 4:16
2. They bear the Lord's Image.
   (1) Col. 3:10
   (2) We learn to think, feel, purpose and act like Christ.
   (3) So, the inner man is made into His image or likeness.
   (4) They partake of the divine nature -- 2 Pet. 1:4.
   (5) 2 Cor. 3:18.
   (6) They have the mind of Christ -- Phil. 2:5.
   (7) I Cor. 15:49.
3. They are zealous for the Lord's glory:
   (1) Tit. 2: 14
   (2) Matt. 5:16
   (3) I Pet. 2: 9
   (4) Eph. 3:21
II. "THE LORD TAKETH PLEASURE IN HIS PEOPLE"

1. God takes pleasure in individual Christians.
   (1) Their bodies are the object of His care and goodness -- Matt. 6: 25 - 33.
   (2) Peter said, "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you"-- I Pet. 5:7.
   (3) I Pet. 3:12.

2. God takes pleasure in the growth of Christians:
   (1) I Pet. 2:1 - 2; Heb. 5: 12 - 14.
   (2) When we add the graces -- II Pet. 1: 5 - 9
   (3) The fruit of the Spirit -- Gal. 5: 22 - 23.
   (4) Giving -- 2 Cor. 8:7

3. In their work, service, and worship. . .
   (1) In their prayers -- Matt. 6:6
   (2) In their assembling to worship Him -- John 4:23.
   (3) In their almsgiving and deeds to others -- Matt. 25: 34 - 40.
   (4) In their self-denial -- Luke 9:23
   (5) Heb. 6:10

4. God takes pleasure in His people at all times and under all circumstances:
   (1) When in adversity and trouble -- James 1:5; 5: 13
   (2) When we are poor and needy -- James 2: 5; Matt. 11:5
   (3) When they die -- Psa. 116: 15
   (4) Rom. 8:28, 35 - 39

CONCLUSION

1. Does the Lord have pleasure in YOU?
2. He does not is you are not His child.