

Appendix 1

Gladness and Pleasure of God verses and explanatory notes

[credit Richard Liantonio for research]

OLD TESTAMENT

1. Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31 – delight in creation
 - a. The word “good/good thing” in these verses is the Hebrew word, “tov.” This word is often translated as not just, “good,” but “pleasurably good” and/or “joyful.”
2. Gen. 2:8, 10, 15 – God places Adam in the garden of His delight as a context for interaction between God and man.
 - a. Eden means, “delight.”
3. Gen. 4:4 – God took pleasure in Abel’s sacrifice
4. Gen. 6:8 – Noah finds “favor in the eyes of the Lord.”
 - a. To “find favor in the eyes” means to look in someone’s face and see an expression of acceptance and gladness. You could paraphrase it by saying, “found a smile on God’s face.”
5. Gen. 8:21 – Noah’s sacrifice was pleasing to God – in other words, it brought God pleasure
6. Gen. 21:6 – God has made laughter
7. Ex. 29:18, 25, 41 – sacrifices are pleasing to God, offering a pleasing aroma.
8. Ex. 33:12-17 – Moses finds favor in God’s sight (see note on Gen. 6:8)
9. Ex. 34:9 - Moses finds favor in God’s sight (see note on Gen. 6:8)
10. Lev. 1:3, 4; 22:27; 23:11 – accepted (gladly received) through the sacrifice
11. Lev. 1;9, 13, 17; 2:2, 9, 12; 3:5, 16; 4:31; 6:15, 21; 8:21, 28; 17:6; 23:13, 18 – sacrifices that bring pleasure to God – sweet/pleasing aroma
12. Lev. 23:2, 4, 37, 39, 44 – The Lord’s feasts. In other words, they were God’s celebrations that He invited His people to join.
13. Num. 6:25 – see note for Isaiah 60:1-2
14. Num. 14:8 – the taking of the Promise Land a sign of God’s delight
15. Num. 15:3, 7, 10, 13, 14, 24; 18:17; 28:2, 6, 8, 13, 24, 27; 29:2, 6, 8, 13, 36 – sacrifices that are sweet to God
16. Num. 24:1 – it pleased God to bless the people
17. Deut. 7:7 – the Lord was pleased to affectionately attach Himself to Israel
18. Deut. 10:15 – the Lord delighted in loving His people
19. Deut. 28:63
20. Deut. 30:9
21. Judges 6:17-21 – Gideon found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Favor in essence is pleasure displayed
22. I Sam. 2:26 – Samuel grew in favor and pleasure of the Lord
23. I Sam. 12:22 – the Lord is pleased to make us His people
24. II Sam. 15:25 – David returning to Jerusalem will be a sign of favor in God’s eyes (see note on Gen. 6:8)
25. II Sam. 22:20 – God delivers us and saves us because He delights in us
26. I Kings 3:10 – The Lord is pleased with Solomon’s heart and request for wisdom
27. I Kings 10:9 – even the queen of Sheba gets a revelation of God’s delight in His people

28. II Kings 10:30 – The Lord received pleasure in Jehu eradicating all traces of Baal from Israel
29. I Chron. 16:27 – His dwelling place is full of joy and gladness
30. I Chron. 17:27 – The Lord is pleased to bless David and his family
31. I Chron. 29:17 – God takes pleasure in uprightness
32. II Chron. 2:4 – (see note for Lev. 23:2)
33. II Chron. 9:8 – “Happy” is the God who delights in you
34. Ezra 3:5 – (see note on Lev. 23:2)
35. Ezra 6:10 – sweet, pleasing aroma
36. Ezra 8:22 – hand of God is “favorably disposed” toward His people
37. Neh. 8:10 – God’s joy makes us strong
38. Job 33:26 – God delights in His praying people
39. Ps. 2:4 – God laughs
40. Ps. 4:6 – Lift up (let us see) the light of His countenance (smile)
 - a. One could translate “light of His countenance” as “the radiant smile on His face”
 - b. The idea of this phrase is one’s face lighting up with joy and excitement when someone walks into the room
41. Ps. 5:4-7 – Those who God does not take pleasure in cannot stand before Him, yet David comes into God’s house (v7). Thus David is declaring that God delights in him
42. Ps. 5:12 – He surrounds us with His favor
43. Ps. 16:3 – God delights in and rejoices over His people
44. Ps. 16:6 – Jesus experiences pleasure in the inheritance the Father gives Him
45. Ps. 16:9-11 – There is endless gladness and pleasure found in Christ
 - a. “Pleasures evermore” at the right hand of God. Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father. “Pleasures evermore” is a Person – Jesus
46. Ps. 18:19 – God delighted in David, even though David was weak and broken
47. Ps. 19:1-6 – The sun radiates the glory and joy of God in creation
48. Ps. 21:6 – His presence brings joyful gladness
49. Ps. 30:5 – His anger is but for a moment, but His smile lasts forever
50. Ps. 30:7 – His gladness towards us strengthens us, enabling us to stand firm
51. Ps. 30:11 – He makes and gives garments of gladness and joy
52. Ps. 31:16 – (see notes on Ps. 4:6)
53. Ps. 32:7 – The Lord sings over us
54. Ps. 35:27
55. Ps. 36:8 – River of God’s pleasure
56. Ps. 37:13 – The Lord laughs
57. Ps. 40:13 – God takes pleasure in delivering
58. Ps. 41:11
59. Ps. 42:8 – The Lord sings over us in the night
60. Ps. 44:3
61. Ps. 45:2 - gracious (delightful) words are on His lips

62. Ps. 45:7 – Jesus is the happiest man to ever live on the planet
63. Ps. 45:8 – Jesus being made glad
64. Ps. 45:11 – Jesus sees His bride as beautiful (pleasing, enjoyable)
65. Ps. 46:4 – The river of God’s gladness makes the city of God glad
66. Ps. 47:5 – God shouts a joyful shout
67. Ps. 48:2 – God delight in the beauty of the New Jerusalem
68. Ps. 48:11 – Jerusalem is beautiful to God. In other words, God’s assessment of Jerusalem causes the people to be glad
69. Ps. 51:6 – God delights in truth
- a. The Hebrew word, “haphets,” (desire) is often translated as “to delight in.”
70. Ps. 51:16,17 – The Lord delights when we come to Him in the simple honesty of our brokenness
71. Ps. 51:18
72. Ps. 51:19
73. Ps. 59:8 – The Lord laughs
74. Ps. 60:6 – God, in His holiness, says, “I will rejoice.”
- a. The root of the Hebrew word, “alaz” (rejoice) literally means, “to jump for joy.”
75. Ps. 68:16 – God delights to dwell in Zion forever
76. Ps. 72:17 – All nations will call Him “Blessed”
- a. The Hebrew word, “ashre” (blessed) literally means “happy.”
77. Ps. 80:3 – God’s salvation and deliverance is understood as His smile over His people (see notes on Ps. 4:6)
78. Ps. 85:1 – (see note on Judges 6:17-21)
79. Ps. 89:15 – (see note on Is. 60:1-2)
80. Ps. 102:13 – the time to favor Israel (see note on Judges 6:17-21)
81. Ps. 104:31 – The Lord rejoices in His works
82. Ps. 104:34 – God’s gladness makes us glad, and happiness in God makes God happy
83. Ps. 106:4 – God has favor towards His people (see notes for Gen. 6:8)
84. Ps. 108:7 – (see Ps. 60:6)
85. Ps. 115:3 – God’s pleasure used to express His omnipotence
86. Ps. 118:27 – The light of God’s countenance shining upon Jerusalem
87. Ps. 119:135 – (see notes on Ps. 4:6)
88. Ps. 135:3 – Praise from His people is pleasant (“delightful”) to Him
89. Ps. 135:6 – God’s pleasure used to express His omnipotence
90. Ps. 141:2 – Prayer is like a sweet aroma, a pleasing fragrance to God
91. Ps. 147:11 – Praise from His people is beautiful and pleasant to Him
92. Ps. 149:4 – The Lord takes pleasure in His people
93. Prov. 3:4 – finding favor in the sight of God (see notes for Gen. 6:8)
94. Prov. 3:12
95. Prov. 8:30 – Jesus rejoicing in the presence of the Father
- a. The Hebrew word, “sachaq” (rejoicing) literally means, “a playful, amusing laughter.”

96. Prov. 8:31 – Jesus laughing with amusement at creation and delighting (finding pleasure) in the “sons of men”
97. Prov. 8:35 – whoever finds Jesus finds favor with the Father (see notes on Gen. 6:8)
98. Prov. 15:8
99. Ecc. 2:26 – There are two groups of people: sinners and those who please God
100. Ecc. 7:26
101. Song 1:15; 2:10, 13 - Jesus sees His bride as beautiful, pleasing, enjoyable
102. Song 2:14 – Our voice in worship and prayer is sweet to Him
103. Song 3:11 – Jesus marries His bride and it is described as the “day of the gladness of His heart
104. Song 4:7 - Jesus sees His bride as beautiful, pleasing, enjoyable
105. Song 4:9 – Jesus’ heart is ravished by one glance from our eye
106. Song 4:10 – our love is delightful to Him
107. Song 4:13, 16
108. Song 5:16 – His mouth is full of sweetness (delight)
109. Song 7:6
110. Is. 2:5 – walking in the light of God (see notes for Ps. 4:6)
111. Is. 5:1 – Jesus sings to the Father with love and delight about His people
112. Is. 5:7 – The Jewish people are God’s delightful planting
113. Is. 9:2 – God’s smiling face (see notes from Ps. 4:6)
114. Is. 11:3 – Jesus delights in and has a worshipful reverence towards the Father
115. Is. 25:6-9 – God delights to throw a feast/banquet/party for His people
116. Is. 40:2 – The idea is that God, by pardoning Israel’s iniquity, is gladly receiving her, lovingly calling her back to Himself
117. Is. 42:1 – The Father says that Jesus is the one in whom He delights
118. Is. 42:21
119. Is. 43:25 – God, who does what He pleases (Ps. 115, 135), blots out our sin for His “own sake.” In other words, it gives Him pleasure to forgive our sins
120. Is. 44:28 – It was God’s pleasure for the city of Jerusalem and the House of God to be rebuilt
121. Is. 46:10 – God’s eternal purposes are His good pleasure
122. Is. 48:14 – It was God’s good pleasure to destroy the enemies of His people
123. Is. 51:3 – God will make Zion’s wilderness like the Garden of Eden (delight). He will make their deserts into a place of encounter, delighting in Him as He delights in them (see notes for Gen 2:8)
124. Is. 53:10 – It pleased the Father to crush the Son on the cross so that we could be forgiven, redeemed, and reconciled to God.
125. Is. 55:11 – God’s word accomplishes His delight/pleasure
126. Is. Is. 56:7 – offerings from foreigners will be accepted with pleasure

127. Is. 58:5 – The Lord looks with favor and gladness upon fasting that is according to His design
128. Is. 60:1,2 – The light of God’s countenance (the smile of His face) breaks into Zion
129. Is. 60:7 – The Lord will gladly receive offerings from the nations
130. Is. 60:10 – The favor of the Lord overcomes anger (see notes on Gen. 6:8)
131. Is. 62:4-5 – Our identity is the delight of God. He rejoices over us.
132. Is. 65:17-19 – God rejoices over and takes delight in His people
133. Jer. 3:12 – literally the Lord says He will no longer “cause His face to fall,” as in frown, on His people. That is, He will smile upon them when they simply acknowledge their sin and turn to Him.
134. Jer. 9:24 – God delights in exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth
135. Jer. 12:10 – Israel is God’s pleasant vineyard
136. Jer. 18:4
137. Jer. 24:6 – God will look upon them with pleasure and good-will
138. Jer. 31:2 – They will find the favor of the Lord in the wilderness (see notes for Ps. 45:2)
139. Jer. 31:20 – God delights in us even as His disciplines us. His discipline is not rejection.
140. Jer. 32:41
141. Jer. 33:9 – God delights to do good in Jerusalem
142. Jer. 49:25 – God calls the “city of praise” the “city of My joy.”
143. Ez. 18:23, 32 – God does no delight in the death of the wicked, but conversely receives pleasure with people turn to Him in repentance
144. Ez. 20:40 – God will gladly receive Israel in the time of her restoration
145. Ez. 20:41 – God enjoys us like a fragrant incense

146. Ez. 28:13 – Even Satan was once an object of God’s pleasure as he lived in the garden of God’s delight (see notes on Gen. 2:8)
147. Ez. 33:11 – (see Ez. 18:23,32)
148. Ez. 36:35 – God’s restoration of the physical land of Israel will be a sign of His delight in them
149. Dan. 9:23; 10:11, 19 – The word/phrase “greatly beloved” or “highly esteemed” comes from the Hebrew root word “chamadh” meaning, “to desire; to take pleasure in; to consider precious
150. Hos. 6:6 – God delights in mercy
151. Hos. 9:5 – (see notes for Lev. 23:2)
152. Micah 6:7,8 – God delights in justice, kindness, and humility
153. Micah 7:18 – God delights in mercy
154. Zeph. 3:17 – God rejoices over us with gladness and singing
 - a. The word “rejoices” in this passage literally means, “to spin around under the influence of violent emotions”

155. Zeph. 3:20 – God will actually “praise” us among the nations. He will gladly make much of His people among the nations of the earth
156. Haggai 1:8 – God’s house of worship and prayer gives Him pleasure
157. Mal. 3:1-4 – pleasing sacrifices to the Lord

NEW TESTAMENT

1. Matt. 3:17 – the man, Jesus, brings the Father pleasure
2. Matt. 7:9-11 – It’s the Father’s delight to give good gifts to His children
3. Matt. 9:13 – (see notes on Hosea 6:6)
4. Matt. 9:14-17 – Jesus’ disciples cannot mourn while Jesus is with them because His gladness (see notes from Ps. 45:7) is so contagious.
5. Matt. 11:19 – Jesus enjoyed celebrating
6. Matt. 11:26
7. Matt. 12:7 – (see notes for Hos. 6:6)
8. Matt. 12:18 – (see notes for Is. 42:1)
9. Matt. 13:44,45 – Jesus pursues us out of an overflow of joy
10. Matt. 17:5 – Jesus brings the Father great pleasure
11. Matt. 18:13
12. Matt. 22:2, 8, 10-12 – The kingdom of God is like a Father who throws a party
13. Matt. 25:10 – The Bridegroom invites us to share in His joy at the feast
14. Matt. 25:21, 23 – Eternal life in God is described as the “joy” of the master
15. Matt. 28:9 – The first words after the resurrection literally mean, “oh joy!”
16. Mk. 1:11 – The Father is extremely pleased with His Son.
17. Mk. 2:18-20 – (see notes from Matt. 9:14-17)
18. Mk. 10:13-16 – Children were attracted to Jesus. Children are not drawn to sour curmudgeons.
19. Lk. 2:14 – God’s delight and favor proclaimed at the birth of Jesus
20. Lk. 2:52 – Jesus grew in an enjoyable relationship with the Father
21. Lk. 3:22 – Jesus brings the Father pleasure
22. Lk. 4:22 – the people marvel at the joy-giving words from His lips
 - a. The Greek word, “charis,” (grace; graceful) means both “unmerited favor” as well as “that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, and beauty.”
23. Lk. 5:33-35 – (see notes from Matt. 9:14-17)
24. Lk. 7:34 – Jesus loved to celebrate and have fun
25. Lk. 10:21 – Jesus rejoices in the Holy Spirit
 - a. The Greek word, “agallaio” (rejoice) literally means, “to get so glad that one jumps in the air.”
26. Lk. 10:21 – the delight of the Father to reveal Himself to the “little children.”
27. Lk. 12:32 – The Father’s pleasure is to give us the Kingdom
28. Lk. 13:32 – Jesus using a little humor, calling Herod, “that fox.”
29. Lk. 14:15-24 – the great banquet (see notes from Matt. 22 and 25)
30. Lk. 15:2 – Jesus received sinners and ate with them
 - a. The Greek word, “prosdechomai” carries the understanding of “gladly accept; to take pleasure in; to have goodwill toward.”

31. Lk. 15:3-7, 8-10, 24-25, 32 – Rejoicing when we return to God
32. Jn. 2:1-11 – Jesus enjoys a good party
33. Jn. 4:36 – Jesus rejoices with us as we partner in the harvest
34. Jn. 8:29 – Jesus does things that bring the Father pleasure
35. Jn. 11:15
36. Jn. 15:11 – Jesus desires for His joy to remain in us
37. Jn. 16:33 – Jesus invites us to join in His delight that He has overcome the world
38. Jn. 17:13
39. Acts 2:26 – Jesus has a glad-heart and a rejoicing tongue
40. Acts 2:28 – Jesus is full of gladness in the presence of the Father
41. Acts 7:26 – (see notes for Gen. 6:8)
42. Rom. 8:8-9 – those in the flesh cannot bring God pleasure, but we are not of the flesh, but in the Spirit – thus we can bring God pleasure
43. Rom. 12:1 – as living sacrifices, we bring pleasure to God
 - a. The Greek word, “euairetos,” (acceptable) literally means “well-pleased.”
44. Rom. 14:18 – the one who serves Christ is well-pleasing to God
 - a. The Greek word, “euairetos,” (acceptable) literally means “well-pleased.”
45. I Cor. 1:21
46. I Cor. 13:6 – God, in His perfect love, rejoices in truth
47. II Cor. 2:14-15 – We are the aroma of Christ. In other words we are as pleasing to God as Jesus is
48. Gal. 1:15, 16
49. Gal. 5:22 – Joy is a fruit of the Spirit of God
50. Eph. 1:4, 5, 9
51. Eph. 5:2 – The Father was pleased with Jesus’ sacrifice
52. Eph. 5:8-10 – it brings pleasure to God for us to walk in our spiritual identity
53. Phil. 2:13
54. Phil. 4:18
55. Col. 1:19-20 – it brought pleasure to the Father that all the fullness dwelt in Jesus
56. I Thess. 1:6 – The Holy Spirit’s joy
57. I Thess. 4:1 – we ought to walk in a way that brings God pleasure
58. II Thess. 1:11 – The good pleasure of His goodness
59. I Tim. 1:11 – The glorious gospel of the “happy” God
 - a. The Greek word, “makarios,” (blessed) literally means “happy.”
 - b. The verse could more accurately read: “...the gospel of the glory of the happy God.” [Piper]
60. I Tim. 2:1-3 – When we pray for the salvation of all men, God is pleased.
61. I Tim. 6:15 – (see notes on I Tim. 1:11)
62. I Tim. 6:17 – the heart of the happy God overflows to give gifts for our enjoyment
63. Heb. 1:9 – Jesus is the happiest man to ever live

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- 64. Heb. 2:12/Ps. 22:22 – Jesus sings to celebrate the Father
 - 65. Heb. 10:7/Ps. 40:8 – Jesus delights to do the Father’s will
 - 66. Heb. 10:38-39 – His soul takes no pleasure in those who, “shrink back.” But we are not those who shrink back.
 - 67. Heb. 11:5 – Enoch brought God pleasure
 - 68. Heb. 11:6 – by faith we bring pleasure to God
 - 69. Heb. 12:2, 3 – Jesus endured the cross because of how much joy He has in us
 - 70. Heb. 12:28 – reverential and awe-filled worship is pleasing to God
 - 71. Heb. 13:21 – God Himself will work in us the things He enjoys
 - 72. Jas. 2:13 – Mercy rejoices against judgment
 - a. The Greek word, “katakauchaomai,” literally means, “to rejoice against, or stand in glad confidence against.”
 - 73. II Pet. 1:17 – Jesus received honor and glory when the Father expressed His pleasure for Jesus
 - 74. I Jn. 3:22
 - 75. Jude 24 – It is the Father’s exceeding joy for us to stand in His presence
 - 76. Rev. 4:11 – We were created for His good pleasure
 - 77. Rev. 5:8; 8:3 – the prayers of the saints are like a pleasing aroma to God
 - 78. Rev. 19:7-9 – our eternal union with Christ is inaugurated by the Father throwing a wedding feast/party