

“Pleasing God”

⇒ **Text:** 1 Thessalonians 4:1

⇒ **Intro:**

- Many a Christian is doing things that are displeasing to God.
 - Few are pleasing Him.
- Our verse tells us as Christians if we want to abound in things of the Lord and be blessed of the Lord then we need walk or live in such a way that is pleasing to Him.

⇒ **First we want to look at:**

⇒ **I. THOSE WHO ARE NOT PLEASING GOD**

- **A. They that live for themselves.**
 - **See Romans 15:1-3.**
 - The word of God tells us that we ought not to please ourselves, for even Christ pleased not Himself.
 - In **Mt. 20:28**, we are told our Lord “**came not to be ministered unto, but to minister....**”
 - Self is all the God they worship.
 - Self is their satisfaction.
 - Those wrapped up in themselves cannot properly worship God.
- **B. They that seek to please men are not pleasing God.**
 - The Apostle Paul said in **Galatians 1:10**
 - **See James 4:4**
- **C. “They that are in the flesh...”**
 - **See Romans 8:8**
 - Carnal lives cannot please God.
 - Paul said, “**We ...have no confidence in the flesh.**” – **Phil. 3:3**
 - The apostle Paul reminds us “**But ye are not in flesh, but in the Spirit...**” – **Romans 8:9**
- **D. They that have no faith.**
 - **Heb. 11:6**, “**But without faith it is impossible to please him:...**”
 - Christ is always pleased when He sees faith.
 - Man sick of palsy carried by four men – **Mark 2:1-5**
 - Healing of Syrophoenician’s Daughter – **Mt. 15:21-28**

⇒ **Second we want to look at:**

⇒ **II. THOSE WHO ARE PLEASING**

- **A. Those who ask right things from the Lord.**
 - Solomon – **1 Kings 3:5-15**
 - Solomon asked for an understand heart to discern between good and bad, and the speech pleased the Lord.
 - Notice what the Lord said to Solomon in **v. 13**.
- **B. The separated unto God.**
 - **2 Tim. 2:4** – We are not to be entangled in the affairs of this life in order “**that we may please him.**”
 - **2 Cor. 6:14-18**
 - **Titus 2:11-15**

- **C. The wholly yielded.**
 - **Heb. 13:21** – “...to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight...”
 - **Romans 12:1** – “...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”
- ⇒ **Poem entitled – “WAIT”**
 - Not so in haste, my heart;
 - Have faith in God, and wait;
 - Although He linger long,
 - He never comes too late. –Anon.
 - **D. Those who walk with God.**
 - **Gen. 5:24** – “Enoch walked with God...”
 - **Heb. 11:5** – “...He had this testimony that he pleased God.”
 - **E. Those who praise God.**
 - **Psalm 69:30-31**
 - **F. Those Who Offer the right sacrifices**
 - **Heb. 13:16**
 - **G. When children obey their parents**
 - **Col. 3:20**
- ⇒ **Third we want to look at:**
- ⇒ **III. PROMISES TO THOSE WHO PLEASE GOD**
 - **A. His enemies will be at peace with him.**
 - **Proverbs 16:7.**
 - **B. His prayers shall be answered.**
 - **1 John 3:22**
- ⇒ **Conclusion:**
 - Pleasing God is following the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
 - He said:
 - **“I do always those things that please him** (referring to the Father)”
 - **“O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”**
 - We should be very careful to keep His commandments and do those things pleasing in His sight.