

## “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 to 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 Syrophenician’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.