

## ARE YOU PLEASING TO GOD?

**Text:** Hebrews 11:6

**Intro:**

- This morning we want to:
  - **First** - Look at 4 groups of people who **DO NOT** please God.
  - **Second** - Look at how **WE CAN** please God.
  - **Third** - Look at what **IS PROMISED** if we please God.

### **I. FOUR GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO DO NOT PLEASE GOD**

- **1. Those who live for THEMSELVES**
  - **See - Rom 15:1-3**
  - **Jesus did not live for himself**
    - **Matt 26:39, 42** -
    - **v. 39** - "And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."
    - **v. 42** - "He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done."
    - **John 8:29** - "And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him."
- **2. MEN PLEASERS**
  - **Apostle Paul said, Galatians 1:10** - "For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ."
  - People who seek the approval of MEN and not GOD
  - Jesus did not seek the approval of MEN

- o **Matt 22:16** - "And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men." → other examples
  - 3 Hebrew boys wouldn't bow down to image - Dan 3
  - Daniel prayed even though against the lord. Dan. 6
- **3.** Those that live in the **FLESH**
  - o **See - Rom 8:8-9** -
  - o Christians can live as those who are **LOST**
  - o **See Gal 5:19-21**
- **4.** Those who do not have **FAITH**
  - o **Heb 11:6** - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
  - o People who DOUBT God and His Word - **Example** Israelites in the wilderness
  - o **See Heb 3:12-19**
  - o The Bible tells us **Lack of faith PROVOKES God**
  - o **Num 14:11** - "And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?"

## II. HOW WE CAN PLEASE GOD

- If you live for God and Others not for yourself
- If you live to please God and not men.
- If you live in the Spirit and not the flesh
- If you live by faith and believe God and His word
- **AND YOU** -
- **1. Pray UNSELFISHLY**
- **See unselfish prayer of Solomon - 1 Kings 3:<sup>5</sup>14**
  - o Ask unselfishly, pray for others

- o James gives us the reason for requested not being answered by God.
  - **James 4:3** - "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."
- **2. SEPARATE** yourselves from the sins of this world
- **The Apostle Paul said -**
  - o **See - 1 Cor 9:25-27**
  - o **2 Tim 2:4** - "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."
  - o **2 Tim 4:10** - "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica;"
- Do not become entangled with sinful living.
- -Any GOOD thing can be made bad if you let it take you over!
  - o Fishing, golfing, *computer games, TV.* anything at all can take you over if you do not control it!
- **3. YIELD** yourself 100% to His will
  - o **Rom. 12:1** - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."
  - o **See - Heb 13:20-21**
- **4. WALK** with Him
  - o **Gen 5:24** - "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him."
  - o **Heb 11:5** - "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."
    - Fellowship, communicating, being in His Word
- **5. PRAISE** Him
  - o **See Psa 69:30-31**

- In song and testimony

### III. WHAT GOD PROMISES IF WITH PLEASE HIM

- 1. Your **Enemies** will be at **PEACE** with you
  - **Prov 16:7** - "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."
- 2. **Prayers WILL** be answered
  - **1 John 3:22** - "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."