

## Fulfillment

Psalm 37:4, "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

It is a familiar reference and one often abused by the selfishness of our flesh. Our old man wants to interpret this, "if I want success in my business/home/hobby, I need to make sure I'm faithful in my devotions, church attendance, and lifestyle. This is not what the psalmist is saying in this passage.

Our lives are so cluttered with desires, both good and bad. Hebrews calls on us to lay aside the sin and the weights that keep us from achieving the goal of Christlikeness. We delight in many things, but the one thing we need to find delight in is our great Lord. Our enjoyment is very much under our control and a matter of our choice. Here is a command to choose to find our pleasure in communing with our God.

Is the time of prayer something you look forward to or dread? Do you enjoy the fellowship with Christ? Is this what you anticipate with pleasure? I know it sometimes takes discipline and schedule planning to make time for prayer and scripture meditation, but we do it for sports, hobbies, and leisure pursuits; why do we think we don't need to for our spiritual life?

The instruction is that if we choose to delight in the Lord, He will answer that with His presence, which is what our heart is desiring. Our desires need to be aligned with God's. That takes pursuit of Him and fellowship with Him.

I leave you with this illustration: Moses was a great man of God and centered his life and desires on the Lord. When it was time for him to die, he asked God to allow him to enter Canaan, even though God had told him he could not because he disobeyed in striking the rock instead of speaking to it. In his last recorded plea to the Lord, God said in essence, "No, now don't ask anymore," and with that God took him and buried his body on the mountain. Look ahead 1400 years: Christ stands on the mount of transfiguration with two men: Elijah and Moses! His desire was granted in God's time. He stood in the Promised Land!

"Wait, I say on the Lord" Psalm 27:14b