

"Whose God Is the Lord"

Bailey
7/6/58
A.M.

Scripture Lesson: - Psalm 33:1-12.

Text: - Psalm 33: 12.

Introduction: - Blessed means "happy". I thank God that I am happy this morning. Are you happy? Are you thanking God for the happiness in your heart? Happiness depends upon the attitude of your heart. Jesus did not have any of the sights of the world to make him happy, yet I feel that he too was a happy man, because he foresaw the future, when men and women, boys and girls, would come to God through him.

These words were spoken, not only to the people of that day, but were spoken to us. Life is not all roses. Happiness depends not on circumstances. We should thank God that we have something in our hearts that makes us sing, in spite of political conditions, in spite of wars, in spite of the threat of Communism. It is the inner assurance that no permanent hurt or harm can come to us, as long as we are his and he is ours.

I. All men can have happiness now, if they know God. In Proverbs we find a recipe for happiness. "Whosoever trusteth in the Lord, happy is he". Riches, wisdom, women, did not make Solomon happy. The Proverbs are the writings of Solomon. He found out that these things could not make him happy. It may be that you are making the rounds trying to find happiness. You will never find it by looking to worldly things. You will have to trust the Lord Jesus Christ. I said, trust. What does it mean to trust? It means placing yourself in his hands, Then when you have placed yourself in his hands, you will find that he will receive you and give to you an experience that makes you happy inside, and radiant on the outside. If you profess to be a Christian, don't go about with a solemn face and gloomy looks, for the non-Christian will say, "If that is the way being a Christian

makes one look and feel, I beg to be excused" Bishop Warne of India used to tell his native preachers when they went into a village to preach Christ, not to go with a sad countenance and gloomy looks. He said, "If you do the bright boys and girls will size you up and say, "Why has he not got anything that we do not have," and you will lose your case before you open your mouth." Go with happy hearts and shining faces and they will hear you."

"O say but I'm glad, I'm glad,
O say but I'm glad, I'm glad,
Jesus has come and my cup's overrun,
O say but I'm glad!"

There are many of wealth, with good cars, nice homes, but with no happiness, no peace. They are poor in spirit. Are you concerned with them? How long since you have spoken to them about the Christ, whose coming brought such joy and victory into your life?

II.

Jesus was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, but he was a man of joy and gladness too. "For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of God." Even down to the last night before his crucifixion when he knew that that very night he would be denied, betrayed and forsaken and the next day nailed to the cross, even then he was so filled with joy that he shared it with his sorrowing disciples. He said to them; "These things have I spoke unto you, that your joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

The great saints of the centuries were men and women of great joy, in spite of their sufferings and persecutions. Martin Luther was a happy man and his home was a happy place. He formed his family into an orchestra. After the evening meal they would play and sing the hymns and rejoice together.

The saints and martyrs shouted and rejoiced at the stake as they waited for the flames. Andrew, one of the twelve disciples of Christ, is said to have witnessed to his love for Christ for two days, as he hung on the cross slowly dying. They often huddled together in the arena and sang praises to God until the hungry lions pounced upon them.

We can be sure the rejoicing and glad witnessing of those dying martyrs made a profound impression upon the pagan people of that day. No doubt many were converted to Christ on the spot.

Madame Guyon who lived three hundred years ago in France, was of noble birth, a mystic, a writer and a poet. Because of her religious convictions she was thrown into prison and in her prison cell sang for joy.

"Strong are the walls around me,
That hold me all the day;
But they who thus have bound me
Cannot keep God away;
My very dungeon walls are dear,
Because the God I love is here.

'Tis that which makes my treasure,
'Tis that which brings my gain;
Converting woe to pleasure,
And reaping joy from pain.
Oh, 'tis enough, whatever befall,
To know that God is All in All!"

Paul said: "Be filled with the spirit; speaking to yourselves in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord!"

Conclusion:- If you want to be happy, obey the laws of God. You cannot obey the laws of God if you are not a Christian. If you are not a Christian, acknowledge your sin, and repent, and be born from above. Then have it in your heart to obey him, and you will have joy and peace. Give God a chance at your life. Let him come in and you will find that peace and joy that is not to

be surpassed. Let him have his way. Let him have complete control. Are you happy or are you seeking happiness? In the things of this world? The things of this world cannot bring happiness. They are of a fleeting nature. Sometimes they leave a dark brown taste in your mouth and regrets in your heart. If your happiness depends on things, then you have the wrong values in life. If you want real happiness of heart you must put God first in your life. He can give happiness the world cannot take away, even though you might lose all of your possessions. Do you have that kind of happiness. "Blessed is the man whose God is the Lord."