

God Delights in Delighting in You!

Most people know God loves them, but fewer truly believe He actually delights in them doing well. This is not a small distinction. Understanding that God takes pleasure in your prosperity, your health, and your peace changes everything about how you approach your faith and your daily life.

What Does It Mean That God Delights in You?

Psalms 35:27 says, "Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favor my righteous cause; and let them say continually, 'Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.'" The Amplified Bible puts it this way: God "delights and takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."

This is not a passive interest. God actively takes pleasure when things are going well for you. He is not a distant creator who wound up the universe and walked away. He set His affection on you.

What Is Shalom and Why Does It Matter?

The word translated as "prosperity" in Psalm 35:27 is the Hebrew word shalom. Most people think shalom simply means peace, but it is far richer than that.

Shalom includes:

- Peace that surpasses understanding
- Health and soundness of body
- Safety and security
- Contentment and tranquility
- Financial prosperity and abundance
- Wholeness in every area of life

Shalom is the state of life that exists when everything is as God intended it to be. It is a condition of complete wholeness where nothing is missing, nothing is broken, and nothing is lacking. That is what God delights in for you.

Does God Really Want Me Healthy and Prosperous?

Third John 1:2 makes this unmistakably clear: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

The King James Version says it this way: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." The phrase "above all things" suggests priority. Your prosperity and health are not afterthoughts to God. They are at the top of His list.

God wants you healthy more than you want to be healthy. Consider what He did to make it possible. Matthew 8:17 tells us, "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses." Galatians 3:13 adds, "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us." He went to the cross so that the curse, including sickness and lack, would not have the final word in your life.

What Does It Mean to Delight Yourself in the Lord?

Psalms 37:4 says, "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart." The word delight here means to take deep, tender, pleasurable joy in the Lord. The root of the word carries the idea of pampering yourself, of taking genuine pleasure.

God delights in your prosperity. He asks you to delight in Him. When you do, He takes care of the desires of your heart. That is His part. Many people exhaust themselves trying to do God's part while neglecting their own, which is simply to enjoy Him and trust Him.

How Do You Practically Delight in God?

Psalms 37:3 gives a practical starting point: "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness." Feeding on His faithfulness means meditating on what He has already done, remembering His goodness, and letting that fill your heart with gratitude.

Delight is not always found in a rigid religious routine. It is found in relationship. A ritual can protect a relationship, but when the ritual becomes bigger than the relationship, something important gets lost. The goal is to enjoy God, not just perform for Him.

Why Is a Happy Heart So Important to Your Faith?

Amos 3:3 asks, "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?" A heart full of worry, complaint, and bitterness has a hard time connecting with a God who is none of those things. Psalm 37:13 tells us the Lord laughs. He who sits in the heavens laughs. God is not anxious or miserable, and the closer you draw to Him, the more that joy becomes your own.

A happy heart hooks up easily to the Holy Spirit. That does not mean pretending problems do not exist. It means choosing to be glad in what God has already done and confident in what He has promised. You can be content where you are while still moving toward where God is taking you. Contentment and forward motion are not opposites.

What About When Things Have Not Come to Pass Yet?

Psalms 37:7 says, "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him." Waiting patiently is not passive resignation. It is active trust. The blessing was purchased 2,000 years ago on the cross. Second Corinthians 8:9 reminds us, "Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."

The things God has promised are coming to pass. You may not see all of it yet, but that does not mean it is not in motion. The enemy tries to hinder, circumstances create delays, and sometimes our own thinking gets in the way. The answer is not more striving. It is renewing your mind to what God has said and refusing to let your feelings or circumstances have more authority than His Word.

What Happens When You Delight in God Instead of Fighting Your Battles Alone?

The Bible gives a vivid picture of this in the story of King Jehoshaphat. Outnumbered and outmatched, he received a word from the prophet: you will not have to fight this battle. Position yourselves and praise God. The musicians went to the front lines. They praised and worshiped, and the enemy fell into confusion and destroyed themselves.

David ran toward Goliath with the same confidence. He was not reckless. He was certain. He knew no weapon formed against him would prosper. That kind of boldness comes from a heart that genuinely delights in God and trusts His promises.

Psalms 37:11 says, "The meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace." That word peace is shalom again. An abundance of it. Overflowing. This is the life God designed for those who delight in Him.

Your Blessing Affects More Than Just You

Proverbs 13:22 says, "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous." God wants you overflowing with good things so that you can be an overflowing blessing to others. Your prosperity is not just for you. It is a resource for the people around you and the generations that come after you.

Psalms 37:23 says, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in His way." Every step you take, God is delighting in your path. Even when you stumble, verse 24 promises, "He shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholds Him with His hand."

Life Application

This week, make a deliberate shift from striving to delighting. Choose one daily moment, whether it is in the morning, at lunch, or in the evening, to simply enjoy God. Not to ask for anything. Not to run through a checklist. Just to feed on His faithfulness, remember what He has done, and let gratitude fill your heart. Let that be your act of trust that He is handling what you cannot.

Ask yourself these questions as you go through the week:

- Am I spending more time worrying about what has not come to pass than I am delighting in who God is?
- Do I genuinely believe God wants good things for me, or do I secretly think I need to convince Him?
- Where in my life am I doing God's part instead of trusting Him with it?
- What would it look like for me to walk in shalom, complete wholeness, in one specific area of my life this week?

God delights in your prosperity. He takes pleasure in your health, your peace, and your wholeness. Your part is to delight in Him. When you do, He takes care of the rest.

Quotes

1. God doesn't merely love you—He delights in you.
2. Shalom is life as God intended it: nothing missing, nothing broken, nothing lacking.
3. God delights in your health, not sickness.
4. Happy hearts hook up easily with the Holy Spirit; complaining hearts struggle to connect.
5. Delight yourself in God, and He delights in bringing His goodness into your life.
6. God wants you healthy even more than you want to be healthy.
7. God wants you to prosper and do well in every area of life.
8. Be content where you are while confidently moving toward where God is taking you.
9. God not only orders your steps—He delights in every step you take with Him.
10. You don't have to convince God to be good to you—His will is already for your good.

11. Don't delight merely in the answer; delight in Him, and let Him bring the answer to pass.
12. The future of the upright is shalom—peace, wholeness, health, and well-being.
13. God's idea of provision reaches beyond you to your children and your children's children.
14. God wants you overflowing with good so you can overflow with blessing toward others.
15. You may fall, but you won't stay down—the mighty hand of God is holding you up.
16. Stop calling your circumstances normal when they contradict God's design for your life.
17. Heaven isn't nervous—God laughs; hook up with Him and get happy.
18. Jesus revealed God's delight in health by going about doing good and healing the oppressed.
19. Your part is to delight in Him; His delight is bringing His good purposes to pass in your life.
20. Keep your eyes on the cross, and you'll never have reason to doubt how deeply God cares for you.

Verses

1. Psalm 35:27
2. 3 John 1:2
3. Psalm 37:4
4. Psalm 37:3
5. Psalm 37:7
6. Psalm 37:10
7. Psalm 37:13
8. Psalm 37:16
9. Psalm 37:23
10. Psalm 37:37
11. Proverbs 13:22
12. Deuteronomy 28:61
13. Matthew 8:17

14. Galatians 3:13

15. Amos 3:3

16. Ephesians 4:30

Summary

God does not merely tolerate your wellbeing. He actively delights in it. The Hebrew word shalom, often translated as peace, actually encompasses health, safety, financial provision, and complete wholeness in every area of life. Third John 1:2 makes clear that your prosperity and health are a priority to God, not an afterthought. Psalm 37:4 invites you to delight yourself in the Lord, and when you do, He takes care of the desires of your heart. A happy, grateful heart connects easily with the Holy Spirit and positions you to receive what God has already provided. Your blessing is not just for you. It flows outward to the people around you and the generations that follow. God delights in your prosperity, and your part is simply to delight in Him.