



# THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

James 5:11

# HAPPINESS IS GOOD

- It is a word that is used far more frequently in the KJV (Jn. 13:17; Jas. 5:11; 1 Pet. 3:14; 4:14).
- It can certainly be used frivolously, but so can words like joy and love (Job 20:5; Lk. 11:43).
- Holiness and happiness are not mutually exclusive notions, in fact they are inseparable (Psa. 1).



# HAPPINESS AS MOTIVE

- The book of Job explores the question of motives for serving God (Job 1:9; 42:3).
- God entices us with happiness (Psa. 16:11).
- Paul openly appeals to happiness (Rom. 8:18).
- Even Jesus is motivated by it (Heb. 12:2).
- Believing in God's reward is foundational to our relationship with Him (Heb. 11:6).

# WHAT MAKES US HAPPY

- Something more than the temporary (Heb. 11:25; Ecc. 1:8).
- Something more than praise of men (Matt. 6:1-6).
- Something more than praise of self (Lk. 18:11-14).
- Happiness comes through admitting sorrow (Matt. 5:3-4).
- Happiness is found in following God (Psa. 19:7-10).
- Happiness is found in humble service and not in being served (Jn. 13:17; Acts 20:35; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; Rev. 22:3).