

BOOK OF 1 KINGS  
PLEASING THE LORD  
1 KINGS 3:10-15

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**Introduction**

Last time we saw how that Solomon had been given a blank check from the LORD! The LORD told him, "*Ask what I shall give thee.*"

Solomon did not mess up **THIS CHOICE** even though we have seen that he has made a couple of wrong CHOICES that are going to cost him in the future!

He didn't ask here for the things that people are known to seek after: **wealth, health, power, fame, or honor**. Instead, he literally made a WISE CHOICE and joined the ranks of some others we know in Scripture who made some WISE CHOICES in their lives! People like:

**Joshua**

*Joshua 24:15—And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

**Ruth the Moabite**

*Ruth 1:16—And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:*

**David**

*Psalms 119:30—I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me.*

**Moses**

*Hebrews 11:25—Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

Solomon's CHOICE was for an **understanding heart to lead the nation!**

*Vs 10* says that his speech and request PLEASED THE LORD! That ought to be our purpose in life too! Our goal should be to hear the LORD say when we stand before Him, "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant.*"

The Bible gives several insights about PLEASING THE LORD:

**I. PLEASING THE LORD CAN BRING ABOUT PEACE IN OUR HEART AND LIFE!**

There is nothing quite like having a peaceful heart and life.

*Proverbs 16:7—When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.*

Solomon's reign was one of peace, not war!

However, when we are living a life that we know is **NOT PLEASING TO THE LORD**, peace is hard to come by especially in our heart!

**II. PLEASING THE LORD IS THE CONTINUAL DUTY OF EVERY BELIEVER!**

*1 Thessalonians 4:1—Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.*

**A. Pleasing The LORD Involves Discovering And Doing What Pleases The LORD Through Living Our Life In The Light Of His Word!**

*"abound" = to superabound (in quantity or quality), be in excess, be superfluous; also to cause to superabound or excel"*

*Psalms 119:130—"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."*

*Psalms 119:105—"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."*

*Proverbs 6:23—"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:"*

*James 1:22—"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only deceiving your own selves."*

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**B. Pleasing The LORD Means Doing the LORD's Will, And It Begins With The Heart Of The Inner Person!**

That is why we must guard our hearts!

*Proverbs 4:23—Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."*

**1. We Know That Salvation Comes From Obeying The Gospel From The Heart!**

*Romans 6:17—"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."*

*Romans 10:9-10—"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*

**2. Pleasing the LORD Also Comes From Obeying The Scriptures From The Heart!**

*Psalms 119:11—"Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee"*

*Ephesians 6:5-8*

*Colossians 3:23—"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;"*

**3. Pleasing the LORD Has Everything To Do With Fulfilling A Trust That Has Been Placed With Us!**

*1 Thessalonians 2:4—"But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts."*

**4. Pleasing the LORD Has Nothing To Do With Pleasing Men!**

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*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."*

**Remember in Numbers 22, The false prophet Balaam who had in his heart the desire to curse Israel so he could please Balak, the King of Moab for a reward.** If it weren't for his donkey, he'd have been a dead man!

Balaam had a heart problem! **He desired to please Balak and get a reward more than he desired to please the LORD!**

Could I tell you that there are a lot of folks today that have Balaam's problem! And the reward may be varied! (Popularity, Prestige, Power, Possessions, etc.)

So, **pleasing the LORD is more than just what we do outwardly; it begins with a right heart attitude toward Him, and His Word!**

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We know from *1 Samuel 16:7* that **man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks upon the heart.**

So, **the LORD is not looking so much at just what we do, but He is also looking at why we do it.** (i.e. our heart motivation)

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**Remember the widow woman who gave only two mites in *Luke 21:3*?** Do you think that Jesus saw only what she gave? **Or do you think Jesus saw her heart fully trusting in God by giving all that she had?**

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**Remember Jesus' parable of the Pharisee and the publican in Luke 18:13? Remember how the Pharisee trusted in himself, but the publican's full trust and hope was in the mercy of God!**

*PLEASING THE LORD IS THE CONTINUAL DUTY OF EVERY BELIEVER!*

*It Involves Discovering And Doing What Pleases The LORD Through Living In The Light Of His Word!*

*It Means Doing The LORD's Will, And It Begins With The Heart Of The Inner Person!*

**III. ENOCH IS AN EXAMPLE OF A MAN WHO PLEASSED GOD!**

*Hebrews 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.***

**A. He Pleased God By Walking In God's Direction!**

*Genesis 5:22 —"Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah."*

**B. He Pleased God By Walking By Faith!**

*Hebrews 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.*

**C. He Pleased God By Sharing His Companionship!**

*(Genesis 5: 22, 24) "Enoch walked with God"*

**D. He Pleased God By Bearing A Strong Witness!**

**(Jude 14-15)**

Are you pleasing the LORD in your life right now? If so, keep it a priority in your life. If not, make it the priority of your life.