

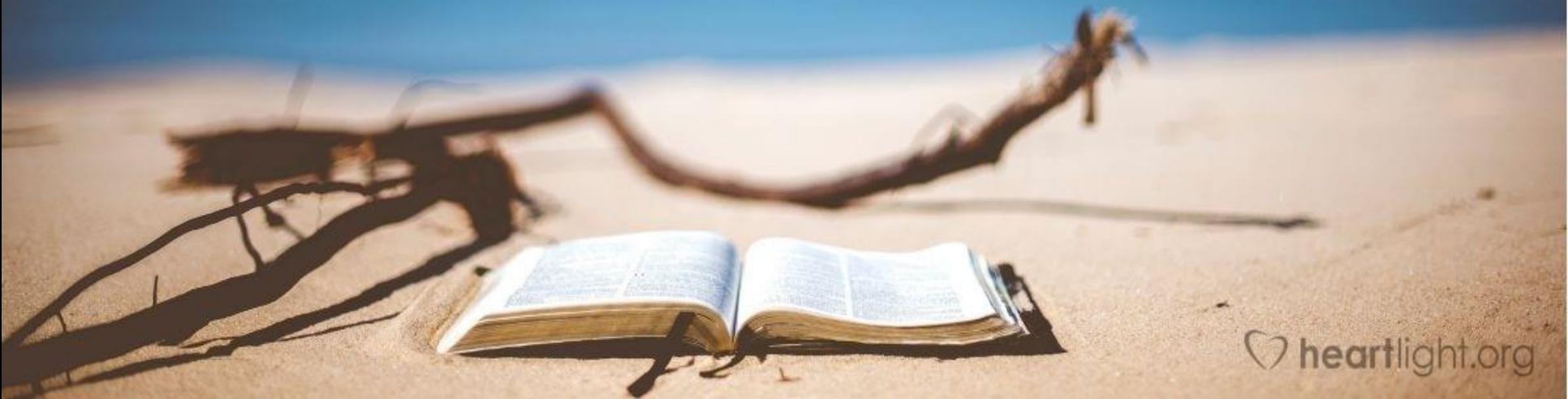


ROMANS

The Greatest Letter Ever Written!

**But God demonstrates his own
love for us in this: While
we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.**

- Romans 5:8 -



Matt 13:44

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “

- We cannot find the kingdom. 1 Cor 2:14 “The natural man...”. We don’t find the kingdom.
- We don’t hide the kingdom. You can hide the light within you (Matt 5:15 lamp under a bushel), but you can’t hide the entire kingdom. It is much bigger than you.
- We can’t buy the kingdom. It isn’t for sale and even if it was we couldn’t afford it.

Luke 15:4-5 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

V8-10 "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

1 Cor 6:20

“for you were bought with a price.”

Heb 9:12

tells us what that price was; “not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood.”

Col 3:3-4

“For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

“Standing by the telegraph wires we may often hear the mystic wailing and sighing of the winds among them, like the strings of a harp; but one knows nothing of the message which is flashing along them. Joyous may be the inner language of those wires, swift as the lightning, far-reaching and full of meaning, but a stranger meddles not therewith. Fit emblem of a believer's inner life...

men hear our notes of outward sorrow wrung from us by external circumstances, but the message of celestial peace, the Divine communing with a better land, the swift heart-throbs of heaven-born desire, they cannot perceive: the carnal see but the outer manhood, but the life hidden with Christ in God flesh and blood cannot discern.”

CH Spurgeon

Eph 1:13-14

“In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.”

Matt 13:44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

Matt 13:45-46 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

Zeph 3:17 “The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.”

Ps 147:11 “The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.”

Ps 35:27 “Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say evermore, “Great is the Lord, who delights in the welfare of his servant!”

Ps 149:4 “For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.”

Ex 19:5 “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples”

Mal 3:17-18 "They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.”

Ps 37:4 “Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

Phil 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”

Ps 70:4 “May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, ‘God is great!’”

Ps 63:3 “Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.”

Therefore, the Bible answer to our first question is: At the core, what God delights in in His people is that we delight in Him.

The proper reason to be glad that God delights in our delight in Him is because it confirms that our delight is truly in God. This fixes our gaze more steadfastly on Him and deepens our joy in Him.

HERE'S THE DANGER! What if we hear God's praise and are drawn away from delighting in God to delighting in God's delighting in us?

God demonstrated His love for you in that while you were a sinner Jesus died for you. He sought you, He bought you, He hid you in Himself, He gave you His Holy Spirit, He delights in you. None can snatch you away!