

Delighting in God Amid Adversity

What are the desires of your heart? Are your desires born out of self-desired needs or are they in alignment with God's will and purpose? If we are to discover our delight in God, our desires need to be rooted in an alignment with His will and purpose for our lives.

James, the Lord's brother makes it clear when he says in his epistle, *"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."*¹ John the beloved disciple of Jesus says something very similar to what James said.

1 John 5:14 *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*

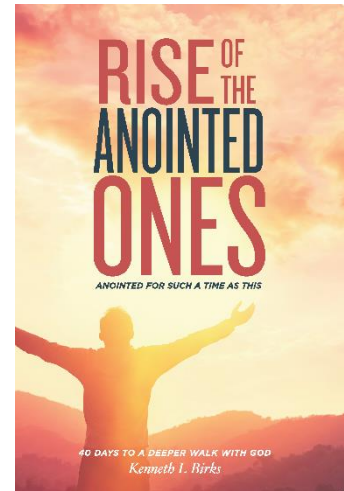
One of the greatest keys to empowered living is that of delighting ourselves in God. The psalmist, David is a wonderful example of someone who discovered the importance of delighting in God. By delighting in God, he was able to overcome in all that came against him. He was an expert in delighting in God. His testimony was as follows:

Psalms 37:4 *Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.*

It is when we learn to delight in God rather than our selfish desires that we release God's ability within us to receive the desires of our heart that are born out of a selfless spirit rather than a selfish spirit.

Delighting in God involves getting to know Him in every aspect of who He is. Even though He is immortal, invisible and beyond full comprehension, He is knowable. What is it that God delights in? The following verse gives us a hint.

Jeremiah 9:24 *"But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord."*



¹ James 4:3

God's ways do not come naturally to us. It is only as we read and learn to meditate in His word that His thoughts and ways get engrafted into our hearts. As we give ourselves to His word and Spirit, His thoughts and ways begin to transform our thinking which causes us to glory in those things that God, our Father delights in.

When our hearts begin to treasure all that we discover in His word, we are perfectly positioned to receive the desires of our heart. His desires will now become our desires. It is only as His word is diffused into our hearts that we are able to discover His perfect and acceptable will.

Romans 12:2 *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

Therefore, as you are transformed in your thinking processes, God's ways become your ways as well, which sets you up to receive all that He has destined for your life, including the desires of your heart. Delight yourself in Him in everything you do and you will receive the desires of your heart



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