ENJOYING GOD

Ecclesiastes 2:24 ... "Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God."

Is God someone you just tolerate? Many people feel that God is a mean master who watches everything they do, then condemns them for their mistakes. Others feel they could handle their lives just fine without God's help, if he would just leave them alone. God is seen by many as someone who interrupts their fun and enjoyment of life due to his hatred of sin.

Perhaps you have felt that way from time to time. In those moments when you wanted to let your hair down and dance away the night with friends and some bottles of liquor. Maybe before you were saved, or on the night before your graduation or wedding, or at someone's birthday celebration, you just wanted to be free from the watchdog you call God, and ignore his warnings and instructions.

Solomon is the author of today's verse. He faced the truth of God's authority and provision when he wrote that there is nothing better for a man than food and drink, and that a man's soul enjoys the reward for his work. Then, he concludes that all of these things are from the hand of God. Your food and drink, and the reward for serving him is provided by God. At the time in his life when Solomon wrote this, he was living in close harmony and obedience to God. He added in verse 25: "For who can eat, or who can have enjoyment, more than I?"

If you find it difficult to imagine God as a loving, caring father, listen to Solomon who is known as the wisest man in human history. He had everything man could desire: gold, jewels, a kingdom, herds of horses, palaces and more. But even in that state of luxury and wealth, he realized it was all from God. If you enjoy the blessings of God, it is only natural that you enjoy HIM. If you are not being blessed by God, that is your first clue that you do not have a relationship with him. Without a personal relationship, God may seem far away, uncaring, and cruel. But, a genuine loving relationship with God will reveal to you his kindness and erase any negative feelings you might have about his authority. Enjoying God's blessings go hand in hand with enjoying God. If you are not enjoying either one, then you have found the cause of your misery and suffering.

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