MY DELIGHT

IS ALWAYS IN THE LORD

**DATE: 4/26/2015 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 16**

**INTRODUCTION**

The phrase ***“My Delight”*** is found 4 times in the Bible

To ***“Delight”*** in something is to *take great pleasure and enjoyment in something or someone*

**Psalm 16** is a hymn of joy that focuses on the goodness of God

The personal pronoun ***“my”*** is used over a dozen times just in this psalm alone

(***“my trust”, “my goodness”, “my cup”*** etc.)

We see David's joy declared in **vs. 9, 11** … (read)

It’s expressed in words like …

-- ***“delight”*** found in **vs. 3 & 6**

-- ***“pleasant”*** and ***“pleasure”*** found in **vs. 6 & 11**

-- ***“glad”*** found in **v.9**

David finds his Delight in the Lord and confesses that everything good in his life has come from God

It’s believed that this psalm was written shortly after the Lord gave what is known as the ***“Davidic Covenant”***

This Covenant was established to assured David of an enduring throne – **II Samuel 7**

This Covenant was eventually fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ … the Son of David

In Gabriel’s announcement to Mary about the birth of the Messiah … he said …

**Luke 1:32, 33 – *“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David:” “And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end”***

David's response to this Covenant is found in **II Samuel 7:18-29 …** Which matches that of this Psalm

They both are a combination of joy, praise, humility, and submission to the Divine will

This is the first use of the term “Michtam” in the Psalms

It is repeated in the inscriptions to **Psalms 56-60**

Many don't agree as to its meaning though

Whatever its meaning …

All 6 of the Michtam psalms end on a happy and triumphant note

This is also a Messianic psalm,

Peter discloses it as referring to Jesus in his message at Pentecost in **Acts 2:25-28**

Paul also applies it to Christ in his sermon in the synagogue at Antioch of Pisidia in **Acts 13:35**

As David Praises God for His Grace and Goodness …

He presents 3 Descriptions of the LORD

And all 3 can be applied to the Lord Jesus Christ today

Let’s pray and then look at **Psalm 16** and this thought

***“My Delight is Always in the Lord”***

***~~~Prayer~~~***

I can Delight in the Lord because He is …

 **I. THE LORD OF MY LIFE – vs. 1-8**

There are 4 thoughts in these 8 verses

When David says ***“Preserve me”***

He’s talking about *keeping someone safe*

But here it doesn't suggest that David was in trouble or danger, as we saw in **Ps. 9** and **13**

It simply means that he needed God's constant care so that he might honor the Lord and enjoy all the good things that only God could give him

God alone is good – **v. 2 *… “my goodness extendeth not to Thee;”***

David understood how it was … that he *fell short*

And that in him … ***“dwelleth no good thing”***

I think of the Rich Young Ruler of …

**Matthew 19:17 –** When ***“He (Jesus) said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God …”***

Jesus was saying that if you are calling Me Good

You are calling Me God

As I Delight in the Lord of My Life … I establish …

**A. ‘Relationship’ – v.1, 2a**

***“Preserve me, O God: for in Thee do I put my trust”
“O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord:…”***

**1.** The Lord is our Highest Good and Greatest Treasure

**Psalm 73: 25, 28** says – ***“Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee” “But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all Thy works”***

**2.** He’s the giver of every Good and Perfect gift

**James 1:17 –** *“****Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father…”***

**3.** To know God through Jesus Christ is the Highest Privilege in life

There is nothing Good … but / what is from … God

If we have anything that we think is good, and it doesn't come from God, it isn't good

**4.** God meets us with the blessing of Good Things

**Psalm 21:3 – *“For thou preventest (meet) him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head”***

**5.** His Goodness will follow us until we reach the Father's house

**Psalm 23:6 –** *“****Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever”***

When Jesus Christ is someone’s Saviour and Lord,

They experience God's Goodness even in the midst of trials

Our relationship … with ourselves, in our circumstances, with other people, and in the future

… Always depends on our Relationship with the Lord

 **A Good ‘Relationship’**

As I Delight in the Lord of My Life … I form …

**B. ‘Companionship’ – vs. 3, 4**

Our **‘Relationship’** is with God …

***“But…”*** our **‘Companionship’** is with …

**v. 3 - *“… the saints that are in the earth and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight”***

We don't /can’t live the Christian life alone

God has ordained … that we become a part of something that is greater than just ourselves

A Companion is someone that shares similar goals / someone we travel (thru life) with

There are 2 groups depicted in this Psalm …

The Sinners and the Saints

First let’s look at …

**1. The ‘Sinners’ – v.4**

***“Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips”***

These are those who follow after other / strange gods

Like David, we must not compromise with those who disobey the Lord and worship idols

Idols like … money, success, fame, etc.

Multiplied gods only bring multiplied sorrows

David didn't even want to speak the names of the false gods of those who forsook God

End of **v.4** says ***– “…nor take up their names into my lips”***

I believe David understood this truth from …

**Exodus 23:13 – *“And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: (cautious) and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth”***

**Joshua 23:7 – *“That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them:”***

Then there are …

**2. The ‘Saints’ –v.3**

***“… that are in the earth and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight”***

The saints are those who trust God and obey His voice, those who are set apart for His purpose

They take God's commands seriously like …

**Leviticus 19:2b - *“Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy”***

Israel was to be a holy nation …

**Deuteronomy 7:6 - *“For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth”***

The Church is (to be) a called out assembly of Holy People

**I Peter 2:9 – *“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:”***

David calls them ***“the excellent”,*** a word that carries the meaning of nobility and glorious

In spite of our faults and failures, believers are God's elite, His nobility on earth

We must all love one another and use our God-given abilities and resources to minister to the family of God

**Galatians 6:1-10 (esp. v.2) – *“Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ”***

We are not to be isolationists, but rather the salt and light

But we must be careful not to be defiled by the sins of the ungodly

**James 1:27b** tells us that we are **– *“…to keep ourselves unspotted from the world”***

**James 4:4 *– “know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God”***

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

No church is perfect, because no believer is perfect

But let's still give thanks for the people of God and seek to encourage them all we can

**A Good ‘Companionship’**

**A Good ‘Relationship’**

As I Delight in the Lord of My Life … I become a good…

**C. ‘Steward’ – vs. 5, 6**

After Israel conquered the Promised Land, each tribe except Levi was assigned a special inheritance

We find this in **Joshua chapters 13-21**

And because the Levites served in the sanctuary and ate of the holy sacrifices,

The Priests and Levites had the LORD … as their special inheritance

**Deuteronomy 10:8, 9 – *“At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto Him, and to bless in His name, unto this day” “Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him”***

David saw himself in that privileged position

**v. 5** says … ***“The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot”***

To possess great wealth but not have the Lord is poverty

I think of the Parable in **Luke 12:16-21** of the Rich Farmer

To enjoy the gifts but ignore the Giver is wickedness

If Jesus is the Lord of our lives? …

Then the possessions we have and the circumstances we are in … represent the inheritance He gives us

The measuring lines (borders) marked off the inheritance of the tribes and families in Israel

And then each individual lot was marked with a ***“landmark”*** that was not to be moved

**Deuteronomy 19:14 *– “Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it”***

David rejoiced that God had caused his lines to fall where they did

**v.6 -** ***“(My) lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly (Delightful) heritage”***

He wanted to be a good steward of all that the Lord had given him

Shouldn’t we be Good Stewards of all God has given us?

**A Good ‘Relationship’**

**A Good ‘Companionship’**

**A Good ‘Stewardship’**

As I Delight in the Lord of My Life … I have …

**D. ‘Fellowship’ – vs. 7, 8**

David's personal fellowship with the Lord was his greatest joy

These were the times God instructed and counseled David and told him what to do and how to do it

David even went to *“night school”* to learn the will of God

End of **v.7** says … ***“in the night seasons”***

**Palms 17:3 *– “Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress”***

**Palms 42:8 *– “Yet the LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life”***

**Palms 63:6 – *“When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches”***

**Palms 77:6 –** ***“I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search”***

***“Night seasons”*** is plural, suggesting long, hard periods of learning from God

The word ***“instruct”*** carries with it the idea of *discipline and chastening*

David learned many hard lessons when God's loving hand chastened him

***“The Lord at his right hand”*** in **v.8** suggests God was his advocate and defender

**Palms 73:23 –** ***“Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand”***

**Psalm 121:5 *– “The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand”***

It is Jesus who is at the Right hand of the Father

**Hebrews 1:3** ***– “Who (Jesus) being the brightness of His (The Father) glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”***

**Acts 2:33 *– “Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear”***

With Jesus as his Guide and Guard, he had nothing to fear; he would not be moved

**Palms 10:6 *– “He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity”***

**Quote:** Warren Wiersbesaid -*“The Future is your Friend when Jesus is your Lord”*

**THE LORD OF MY LIFE**

Not only should Jesus be the Lord of Our Life

But He is Also …

**II. THE CONQUEROR OF DEATH – vs. 9, 10**

***“Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope” “For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption”***

To Delight in the Lord and His Goodness and then lose all these blessings at death would be a great tragedy

**I Corinthians 15:19 –** ***“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable”***

But by His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus has conquered death

And now through faith in Him we have a ***“living hope”***

**1 Peter 1:3 –** ***“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”***

When David wrote in **v.9 *–“my flesh also shall rest in hope”***

He was referring to the Messiah and not to himself

Using **Ps. 16**, Peter proved that Jesus had been raised from the dead in **Acts 2:22-31**

**Acts 2:25 –** ***“For David speaketh concerning Him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for He is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:”***

It's obvious that David was dead and his body had decayed in his tomb

**Acts 2:29 *– “Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day”***

But at the very end of **v.31** it says this …

***“… neither His flesh did see corruption”***

Because He rose from the dead on the third day

He had a real and substantial body, but it was also a glorified body

David could face death with a glad heart and could rest in the hope of a Resurrection

Knowing that one day, he, too, would have a new glorified body

Paul used this same text to prove the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead in **Acts 13:26-39**

The full light of revelation about death and resurrection had not yet been revealed in Old Testament times

Although there are hints of it

**Psalm 17:15 – *“As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness”***

But Paul declared to Timothy …

**II Timothy 1:10 –** ***“But (it) is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:”***

**THE LORD OF MY LIFE**

**THE CONQUEROR OF DEATH**

**III. THE JOY OF ETERNITY – v.11**

***“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore”***

The focal point of heaven is not gates of pearl, streets of gold, or even angels and glorified saints

The central glory and joy of heaven is Jesus Christ

**Revelation chapters 4 & 5** describe the worship of Jesus in Heaven

The path of life that He shows us on earth today will end in even greater life when we enter heaven

Then we shall be in His presence and experience fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore

A foolish caricature of heaven shows white-robed saints with halos and harps, resting on little white clouds

But the Bible gives no such description

In our glorified bodies, we shall be like Jesus Christ

**Philippians 3:20, 21 – *“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:” “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself”***

**I John 3:2, 3 –** ***“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: …***

***… but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as he is” “And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure”***

We shall worship and serve Him forever

The pleasures of heaven will far exceed any pleasures we have known here on earth

And as we enjoy the Lord and serve Him,

We will not be restricted or encumbered by time, physical weakness, or the consequences of sin

So magnificent are the glories of heaven that the Bible tells us …

**I Corinthians 2:9 –** ***“… Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him”***

**CONCLUSION**

Is Jesus Christ the Lord of your life?

Have you accepted your inheritance and are you making the most of it for His glory?

Do you anticipate being with Christ in glory?

Is He the joy of your life today?

For if He isn't … How will you be prepared to enjoy Him for all eternity?