

## Gods Pleasure in His Son

Matthew 17.18, Jeremiah 9.23-24

### Overview

#### **God takes pleasure in His Son because He is God (Matthew 17.1-8)**

- Matthew 16.28 says that some would not see death until they saw the Son of Man come into His kingdom
- The next thing is the story of the Mount of Transfiguration which explains 16.28:
  - Jesus is transfigured:
    - Face shone like the sun
    - Clothes became white as light
      - This is different than Moses & Elijah as the light emanated FROM Christ
  - This illustrates what Hebrews 1.3 says of Jesus: He was/is the radiance of the glory of God
  - God the Father speaks in and says that He loves His Son and that He is “well pleased” with Him
    - That sentence could easily be rendered: I love my Son and take Pleasure in Him
- Why Is God Pleased with His Son? Was it because of His performance? No...but because He was/is God:
  - God must value what is most valuable otherwise He would be an idolater and would break the first commandment
  - Jesus was/is God: Hebrews 1.3, John 1.1-14, 10.30, Colossians 1.19; 2.9, etc.
  - He forgave sin, which is something only God could do
- God has always, from eternity, loved, pleased, and enjoyed Himself without any hindrance of sin:
  - God is One God in Three Persons: Matthew 28.19-20 (“name”...Father, Son, Spirit)
- God is by nature “love” because He has had something to set His affections upon because of His nature as Triune:
  - He has been eternally happy in Himself

#### **God takes pleasure in His Son because His Son knows & understands God (Jeremiah 9.23-24)**

- What is it about God that gives Him Delight/Pleasure/Joy?
- Jeremiah 9.23-24 teaches us what the Lord delights in:
  - He does not delight in those who boast in riches, wisdom, or might
  - He does delight in those that know and understand that He is the Lord who practices (ongoing) steadfast love, justice, and righteousness
  - Jesus did not boast in His riches: 2 Cor. 8.9
  - Jesus did not boast in His might: Luke 10.20
  - Jesus did not boast in His wisdom though He possessed “wisdom from God” (1 Cor. 24) but instead He deflected praise to God the Father
  - Jesus DID boast in His knowing and understanding the Father...that’s how He defined eternal life: John 17.3
    - The Gospel was the embodiment of Steadfast, Love, and Justice
- This Gospel allows us to ENTER INTO the JOY of our Master (Matt. 25.23)

### Questions

**Discussion Starter:** *How would all of you have described God's posture before thinking about this subject? How would most of your friends describe Him? Do you think most people would describe God as Happy?*

1. Read Matthew 17.1-8: What is significant about the light emanating FROM Jesus?
2. What does God the Father communicate about the event? (See Matthew 3.17 for similar words) Why does God want us to know this?
3. Does it change your perspective of God, or even of heaven, to consider God as an eternally joyful God that has been pleased with Himself forever?
4. Read Jeremiah 9.23-24: How does this passage give us clarity about what it is about God the Son that gives Him such pleasure?
5. Describe ways that Jesus did not boast in riches, might, or wisdom though He had them.
6. Why are we tempted to boast in them? What is the lie of giving into such temptations?
7. Describe how Jesus boasted in knowing and understanding God.
8. How does the Gospel satisfy God's steadfast love, righteousness, and justice?
9. Share some ways in which you can "enter into the Joy" of God's eternal Joy?

**Accountability Question:** *What are some ways you are trying to pleasure in riches, wisdom, or might instead of finding delight in knowing and understanding that the Lord is the one who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness?*

[And/or]

*How are you encouraged to pray this week given this notion of God's nature?*