

Source of Happiness
(Psalm 32: 1-5)
Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven...

Happiness is defined as a state of delight or pleasure, or gladness over a particular thing. Today, we live in a world where many are devoid of it and go futilely searching down all the wrong avenues to find it. It's the theme of countless songs and books are written on how to obtain it; you can even attend a seminar on how to cultivate it. Yet true happiness seems to elude many from every generation.

God, who is the source of everything that we need in life, has clearly outlined in His word how to secure true happiness. In the Bible the words "happy" and "blessed" are often translated from the same word and are attached to various conditional situations. The above text states that a person is blessed or happy when their transgression is forgiven and their sin is covered. Forgiveness supersedes all other conditional circumstances that produce happiness; life will remain out of sync until we "settle the matter". A person can ascend the mountain of success and acquire all the ingredients necessary for a life of comfort and pleasure; yet the puzzle of their life will be incomplete without that missing piece of forgiveness from our Heavenly Father. One may even put on the façade of a happy exterior, but all the while they may be miserable, fearful, and hurting because sin continues to alienate one from God. When the Holy Spirit moves to draw us to the Lord, if we allow the resulting pressure and weight of conviction from our sin to cause our soul to cry out for forgiveness, the Father waits with open arms to meet our deepest need. When we realize how close to the edge of hell we dangled as we made the choice to clasp that nail pierced hand that reached out to pull us to safety...how relieved, how blessed, how happy!

As the days, months, and years go by, may we never forget and always long for that same wonderful sense of happiness we first felt in being forgiven.

JDE