



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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The Biblical Categories of Happiness

- Pseudo happiness or false happiness.
- Establishment happiness from following the laws of divine establishment.
- Perfect happiness which is the possession of divine happiness (also called +H).

Pseudo happiness is Satan's attempt to counterfeit the happiness, the contentment, and the blessing which God has provided for every Church-age believer as members of the royal family of God. The provision of perfect happiness is found in our portfolio of invisible assets and the game plan for the Church-age, the protocol plan of God. However, as the ruler of this world, Satan loves to keep his citizens deceived through this counterfeit happiness. He does so by providing stimulation, ambition, and self-indulgence which will either counterfeit or cancel out the happiness God provides for us. This is why the apostle John said in 1 John 2:15-17 *"Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world." "And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever."*

Satan himself does not personally administer pseudo happiness to any person, but he does provide the system called in this passage the world, or the *kosmos*, which we call the cosmic system. And the cosmic system provided by Satan is filled with illusions, delusions, fallacies, and misconceptions of happiness. Satan's myth of arrogance is that both people and pleasant circumstances in life can make you happy. This of course is not true. Satan's propaganda is that money, success, pleasure, social life, sexual life, public approbation, fame, material things, travel, health, and pleasant circumstances in life can make you happy. This is only true under certain circumstances and with certain limitations; however, it doesn't last. Often these things are pleasurable, stimulating, fun, and enjoyable, but they cannot support you...especially in time of suffering.

By way of contrast, what God has provided for us in perfect happiness is a permanent factor and a problem-solving device. Remember this principle, anything that is worthwhile is worthwhile in adversity as well as in prosperity. If you are dependent on any person or set of circumstances for happiness, you are weak and you do not have happiness. To the extent that you are dependent on people, circumstances, prosperity, success, or any accoutrements of life for happiness, you are weak. But if, as a believer in Jesus Christ, you have been faithful in the reception, retention, and recall of Bible

doctrine and have advanced to spiritual self-esteem, spiritual autonomy, or spiritual maturity; you are not only a strong person, but you have great inner happiness.

You take this inner happiness with you wherever you go, just like the apostle Paul took it with him while in prison. God's happiness isn't dependent on environment, associations, or circumstances of prosperity or adversity; it depends on none of these things.

God's happiness is simply a part of God's grace policy to believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. Remember that Satan is the ruler of this world, Luke 3 4:5-7; John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11 [ruler]; 2 Corinthians 4:4 [god]; Ephesians 2:2 [prince]. In Ephesians 2:2, he is called the prince of the power of the air, or the one who controls the atmosphere in this world. Here the "atmosphere" refers to the educational system, the media, television, radio, literature, or any other means that the kingdom of darkness can use to invade your system of thinking.

Satan rules and controls through a policy called arrogance, in contrast to God's policy of grace. However, Satan's administration of pseudo happiness to any believer or unbeliever can only exist when that person is involved in the cosmic system. This happens primarily in cosmic one, where through arrogance, any capacity for true happiness is destroyed.

Arrogance destroys any capacity for happiness. The presence of arrogance in your soul is a guarantee of unhappiness perpetuated for the rest of your life. Arrogance includes jealousy, and you cannot be jealous and be happy. It includes self-pity, and you cannot have self-pity and be happy. It includes a guilt complex, which you cannot have and be happy.

It also includes implacability, vindictiveness, hatred, revenge motivation, revenge function; any of these can keep you from being happy. All mental attitude sins, which add up to motivational arrogance, guarantee the exclusion of any happiness. Then from there you will move to functional arrogance, which only intensifies your unhappiness, causing you to begin a frantic search for happiness, and to try all sorts of things that will only make you unhappy. Your life might be like the fool mentioned in Luke 12:16-17 *"And He told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a certain rich man was very productive.'"* *"And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?'"*

Luke 12:18-21 *"And he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 'And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years [to come]; take your ease, eat, drink [and] be merry. 'But God said to him, 'You fool! This [very] night your soul is required of you; and [now] who will own what you have prepared?'" "So is the man who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*

Unhappiness destroys the potential for contentment and appreciation and causes people to go on the frantic search for happiness. This complete and total search for pleasure eventually results in the total destruction of the individual. No amount of material possession produces wealth; but enjoying what we have, no matter how much or how little it may be, is what makes us wealthy. And, for those in the world, it is very hard to tell what does bring happiness because poverty and wealth have both failed. The problem is these people have been deceived by the god of this world.

That's why in Revelation 12:9 we are told *"And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world;"* So, the arrogance complex is very deceptive because it deludes, distracts, and deceives mankind into false notions about what constitutes happiness. A short good time can certainly be construed as happiness during the time it occurs. Pseudo happiness can be stimulation, fun, entertainment, or something that is enjoyable, but it isn't permanent; it is momentary. It depends upon a set of circumstances and an environment pleasant to you. And the great deceiver of this world has trapped many individuals by causing them to be suckers for pseudo happiness.

As 2 Timothy 2:26 says they are being *"held captive by Satan to do his will."* So this is called pseudo happiness because, beyond that moment of good time, there are bad times, routine times, or dull times. And when you are bored or facing problems, that past temporary happiness does not sustain you. People cannot be carried by good times. However, by way of contrast, perfect happiness is a magnificent problem-solving device because you have it all the time, and you merely tune into it during problem solving. Perfect happiness is not only a problem-solving device, but it is a basis for capacity for life. Arrogant preoccupation with self through involvement in the cosmic system guarantees unhappiness, and it guarantees that every moment of stimulation, success, or enjoyment will neither be perpetuated nor sustain you in day-by-day life.

Therefore, it is called pseudo happiness. You are stimulated and you call it happiness, but it's gone tomorrow. Pseudo-happiness is associated with any form of stimulation, enjoyment, or excitement which provides temporary pleasure, but it does not sustain, motivate, or encourage the believer in time of adversity, pressure, suffering, or testing, during which time he needs to use the resources of doctrine to solve the problems that beset him. And instead of true happiness, if you are involved with the cosmic system this guarantees you self-induced misery and divine discipline. You can be free to indulge yourself in every whim of life, and yet become frustrated and miserable. You must have capacity for happiness to really be happy, and then you can be happy in whatever life has to offer you in a given moment. Capacity for happiness must precede the experience or function of happiness. Morality, self-control, and self-determination based on divine standards of the Word of God will produce two kinds of happiness in your life.

- The unbeliever who functions under morality without arrogance will have establishment happiness from the laws of divine establishment.

- The believer who functions under consistent perception, metabolization and application of Bible doctrine will receive perfect happiness, which is a day-by-day, moment-by-moment happiness that carries you in the darkest of nights and the most difficult of times.
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Life is divided into two parts: living and dying. And if you have perfect happiness in living, you will have perfect happiness in dying, whether it is prolonged and painful or short and sweet. The only difference between living and dying is that, in living, we have the full use of our volition toward doctrine. However, in dying, our volition is no longer an issue because God's sovereignty selects the time, place, and manner of our death. If you live in the cosmic system, you will have a pseudo happiness in living and therefore a pseudo happiness in dying; and you will die miserably with a lifestyle of fear. Your mental attitude of panic will actually intensify all your problems in dying. But if you have perfect happiness, you will have a magnificent life and a magnificent time while dying. Another area in which you can have either pseudo happiness or God's perfect happiness is in your single or marital status. If you have pseudo happiness, when you are single, you wish you were married; and when you are married, you wish you were single. But if you have perfect happiness, it doesn't make any difference whether you are single or married. If you have perfect happiness and impersonal love in marriage, you can resolve all marital problems. That doesn't mean that the marriage is always going to work out; in many cases it does not. However, it does mean you don't have to have any bitterness, jealousy, anger, vindictiveness, or revenge motivation, like so many do when their marriage doesn't work out.

Remember that the four divine institutions are for believers and unbelievers alike. They are the basis of structure in society, the basis for the perpetuation of human life and freedom, and the basis for order in society by which each person can fulfill his own destiny while others fulfill theirs. However, neither divine institution number one, volition, nor divine institution number two, marriage, sustained and carried Adam and the woman in perfect environment. Before the fall of man, two divine institutions existed. There was freedom of volition, divine institution number one, and then there was marriage, divine institution number two. There was no family and no nation, which are divine institutions numbers 3 and 4. However, the marriage of Adam to the woman was a flop, a failure, as noted by Adam's original sin and the woman's sin.

And as they left the garden, God gave each one a mandate, and whether you and I like it or not is not the issue; God said "Husband, work! Wife, bear children!" God didn't tell them, "Go forth and be happy." In fact, throughout the Scripture, there are no mandates to be happy in marriage, because marriage is not a state of happiness. And if you did a study in the word of God, you would find out that certain marriages were flops, but the individuals still had perfect happiness. For example, remember Abraham's deceitful and cowardly attitude toward his wife Sarah, Gen 12:12-13, 20:1-18. They didn't have a good marriage, but they both ended up winner believers and had the happiness of God. Moses divorced his first wife Zipporah in Exodus 18:2, but he still had the happiness of God during that terrible marriage where she threw some foreskin at him. I'll let the Living Bible give you an idea of what happened. Exodus 4:25 *"Then Zipporah his wife took a*

flint knife and cut off the foreskin of her young son's penis, and threw it against Moses' feet, remarking disgustedly, 'What a blood-smeared husband you've turned out to be!'" He didn't have a good or happy marriage, but he had the happiness of God. Do you think that David had a happy marriage when in 2 Samuel 5:13 *"Meanwhile David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem,"?*

He didn't have a good or happy marriage, or in his case, marriages, but he had the happiness of God. In fact, in 2 Samuel 6:16, it says that his wife Michal hated him. However, David still had God's happiness. Hosea is another example of a winner believer who did not have a happy marriage. Hosea 1:2 *"When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, 'Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry [or go marry a whore], and [have] children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the Lord."* Hosea 1:3 *"So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son."* He didn't have a good or happy marriage but he had the happiness of God. Now, the point is, marriage was never designed for happiness. A happy marriage occurs when two happy people enter into a state of matrimony and in that state retain their happiness.

The only happy people who can do this are those who have perfect happiness or establishment happiness. An unhappy marriage occurs when two unhappy people get married and retain their unhappiness. Or when a happy person and an unhappy person get married, and the unhappy person dominates and controls the marriage, the happy person loses his happiness.

A marriage is successful when two unhappy people get married, and through the predesigned plan of God or the laws of divine establishment, attain happiness and live together in a state of contentment. But with regard to believers, it is impossible for believers to have a happy marriage apart from spiritual growth, execution of the protocol plan of God, and possession of perfect happiness. The best potential for a great marriage belongs to believers who are positive toward doctrine. If the carnal believer tries to have a good marriage through establishment, his carnality and arrogance cancel out the establishment principles. Therefore, the believer's only hope is to grow in grace through the perception of Bible doctrine.

A successful marriage is possible for any two believers who are both positive toward Bible doctrine. An unsuccessful marriage also happens when a happy person and an unhappy person get married, and the unhappy person causes the happy person to revert to the cosmic system. A failing marriage occurs when the happy person married to an unhappy person changes his priorities in life so that he loses his premarital happiness. So marriage will not make you happy. In fact, if you are involved in the arrogance of the cosmic system, marriage will intensify and increase your misery.

People, marriage, sex, prosperity, success cannot make you happy. Only the execution or fulfillment of the protocol plan of God and the use of the ten problem-solving devices can make you happy. In fact, success is getting what you want; happiness is wanting

what you get. And once you have perfect happiness, you have the same happiness and the same capacity for happiness in adversity as well as in prosperity.

In Phil 4:13 *"You can do all things through Him who strengthens you."* There are also those who are single who are waiting for their right man or right woman, 1 Corinthians 7:17. This includes those who haven't been married and those who have been married, but are not now married. Remember that those divorced with the legal right to remarry are in single status, and have the bona fide right under certain conditions to remarry, Deut 24:1-4. These conditions include unfaithfulness on the part of the opposite partner or desertion by the opposite partner.

However, if you are single and looking for happiness, do not look for it in someone of the opposite sex...you won't find it! People are no better in marriage than they are as people. People are never the same after marriage; they change either for the better or the worse. Marriage is a problem manufacturing device which demands the best from every believer.