

~HAPPINESS (468)

[Hebrew, *e'sher*, Greek, *ma'ka'ri'os*]

- Yehowah And Jesus Christ
- What Is The Basis For Real Happiness
- A Happy Nation
- Christ's Counsel About Happiness
- Take Delight In Jehovah

· Happiness is a state of well-being that is characterized by relative permanence, by emotion ranging from mere contentment to deep and intense joy in living, and by a natural desire for it to continue. It thus differs from mere pleasure, which may come about simply through chance contact and stimulation

- The **Hebrew** word for happy is *e'sher*.
- **Happy** is the able-bodied man that has put Yehowah as his trust and that has not turned his face to defiant people, nor to those falling away to lies. (**Psalms 40:4**)
- While the related **Hebrew** verb *a'shar'* means, **pronounce happy**.
- Then Leah said; With my **happiness!** For the daughters will certainly pronounce me **happy**. So she called his name Asher. (**Genesis 30:13**)
- These **Hebrew** terms are used with reference to human's. They often denote the result of positive action, such as acting with consideration toward the lowly one or being in fear of Yehowah.
- **Happy** is anyone acting with consideration toward the lowly one, in the day of calamity Yehowah will provide escape for him. (**Psalms 41:1**)
- Praise Yah, you people! **Happy** is the man in fear of Yehowah, in whose commandments he has taken very much delight. (**Psalms 112:1**)
- The **Greek** word rendered, **happy**, is *ma'ka'ri'os*. The **happinesses** described in the Psalms and Proverbs, and particularly those spoken of by Jesus Christ in his Sermon on the Mount, are often termed **beatitudes** or **blessednesses**.

· However, **happiness** is a more exact rendering of the Bible terms used, for both **Hebrew** and **Greek** have distinct words for **ble**ss****, **Hebrew** *ba·rakh´*, **Greek** *eu·lo·ge´o*. Furthermore, **ble**ss**ed** carries the thought of the action of **ble**ss**ing**, while **happy** brings to mind the state or condition that results from the blessing of God. Many modern versions render *a·shar´* and *ma·ka´ri·os* as, **happy**, **happiness**, CK, JB, Ph, Ro, TEV, Yg, NW and other versions.

· *Ma·ka´ri·os* is translated **happy** in **KJ** at,

· Concerning all the things of which I am accused by Jews, King Agrippa, I count myself happy that it is before you I am to make my defense this day. (**Acts of Apostles 26:2**)

· The faith that you have, have it in accord with yourself in the sight of God. Happy is the man that does not put himself on judgment by what he approves. (**Romans 14:22**)

·· **Yehowah And Jesus Christ**

· **Yehowah** is **the happy God** and **the happy and only Potentate**.

· According to the glorious Good News of the **happy** God, with which I was entrusted. (**1 Timothy 1:11**)

· This manifestation the **happy and only Potentate** will show in its own appointed times, he the King of those who rule as kings and Lord of those who rule as lords. (**1 Timothy 6:15**)

· In spite of the fact that Yehowah's name and sovereignty have been challenged by the introduction of wickedness in both heaven and earth;, he is sure of the outworking of his purposes, nothing can be done beyond what his will permits.

See YEHOWAH

· The One telling from the beginning the finale, and from long ago the things that have not been done, the One saying; My own counsel will stand, and everything that is my delight I shall do. (**Isaiah 46:10**)

· The One calling from the sunrising a bird of prey, from a distant land the man to execute my counsel. I have even spoken it. I

- shall also bring it in. I have formed it. I shall also do it. (**Isaiah 46:11**)
- For just as the pouring rain descends, and the snow, from the heavens and does not return to that place, unless it actually saturates the earth and makes it produce and sprout, and seed is actually given to the sower and bread to the eater. (**Isaiah 55:10**)
 - So my word that goes forth from my mouth will prove to be. It will not return to me without results, but it will certainly do that in which I have delighted, and it will have certain success in that for which I have sent it. (**Isaiah 55:11**)
 - His long-suffering in permitting conditions that are within his power to change has been with a definite purpose or end in view, therefore he is happy. The apostle Paul writes,
 - If, now, God, although having the will to demonstrate his wrath and to make his power known, tolerated with much long-suffering vessels of wrath made fit for destruction. (**Romans 9:22**)
 - In order, that he might make known the riches of his glory upon vessels of mercy, which he prepared beforehand for glory. (**Romans 9:23**)
 - Namely, us, whom he called not only from among Jews but also from among nations, what of it? (**Romans 9:24**)
 - Therefore, as the psalmist exclaims;
 - The glory of Yehowah will prove to be to time indefinite. Yehowah will rejoice in his works. (**Psalms 104:31**)
 - He is the greatest and foremost Giver, never changing or letting his generosity and merciful, loving attitude be turned to bitterness because of ingratitude on the part of creatures.
 - Every good gift and every perfect present is from above, for it comes down from the Father of the celestial lights, and with him there is not a variation of the turning of the shadow. (**James 1:17**)

- His Son, Jesus Christ, resting full confidence in his Father and always doing the things that please Him, is **happy**.
- And he that sent me is with me, he did not abandon me to myself, because I always do the things pleasing to him. (**John 8:29**)
- Even when undergoing trials and sufferings, Jesus had an inward **joy**.
- As we look intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our faith, Jesus. For the **joy** that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (**Hebrews 12:2**)
- **Happy** are those who have been persecuted for righteousness sake, since the kingdom of the heavens belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:10**)
- **Happy** are you when people reproach you and persecute you and lyingly say every sort of wicked thing against you for my sake. (**Matthew 5:11**)
- Rejoice and leap for joy, since your reward is great in the heavens, for in that way they persecuted the prophets prior to you. (**Matthew 5:12**)

·· What Is The Basis For Real Happiness

- All the **happinesses** promised in the Bible are contingent upon a right relationship with God, all of them are realized on the basis of love of God and faithful service to him. True **happiness** cannot be achieved apart from obedience to Jehovah. His blessing is essential for **happiness**, as one of his good gifts and perfect presents.
- **Happiness** does not find its source in amassing material wealth or power. Jesus said,
- I have exhibited to you in all things that by thus laboring you must assist those who are weak, and must bear in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, when he himself said; There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving. (**Acts of Apostles 20:35**)

- The one who gives consideration to the lowly one, thereby enjoying the happiness of giving, is promised.
- **Happy** is anyone acting with consideration toward the lowly one, in the day of calamity Yehowah will provide escape for him. (**Psalms 41:1**)
- Yehowah himself will guard him and preserve him alive. He will be pronounced **happy** in the earth, and you cannot possibly give him over to the soul of his enemies. (**Psalms 41:2**)
- The things that contribute to true **happiness** are knowledge of Jehovah, wisdom from him, and even his correction and discipline.
- For Yehowah himself gives wisdom, out of his mouth there are knowledge and discernment. (**Proverbs 2:6**)
- For Yehowah himself gives wisdom, out of his mouth there are knowledge and discernment. (**Proverbs 2:6**)
- **Happy** is the able-bodied man whom you correct, O Yah, and whom you teach out of your own law. (**Psalms 94:12**)
- The truly **happy** person trusts in Yehowah,
- He that is showing insight in a matter will find good, and **happy** is he that is trusting in Yehowah. (**Proverbs 16:20**)
- Delights in and walks in His Law.
- **Happy** is the man that has not walked in the counsel of the wicked ones, and in the way of sinners has not stood, and in the seat of ridiculers has not sat. (**Psalms 1:1**)
- But his delight is in the Law of Yehowah, and in his Law he reads in an undertone day and night. (**Psalms 1:2**)
- Praise Yah, you people! **Happy** is the man in fear of Yehowah, in whose commandments he has taken very much delight. (**Psalms 112:1**)
- Observes justice.
- **Happy** are those observing justice, doing righteousness all the

time. (**Psalms 106:3**)

- **Fears God.**
- **Happy** is everyone fearing Yehowah, who is walking in his ways. (**Psalms 128:1**)

•• **A Happy Nation**

- **Happiness** can be the lot of an entire nation or people if the nation truly follows Yehowah as its God and obeys his laws.
- **Happy** is the nation whose God is Yehowah, the people whom he has chosen as his inheritance. (**Psalms 33:12**)
- **Happy** is the people for whom it is just like that! **Happy** is the people whose God is Yehowah! A praise, of David. (**Psalms 144:15**)
- The nation of Israel, after David's righteous administration and during the time that King Solomon followed Yehowah's Law, was secure and **happy**, like the grains of sand that are by the sea for multitude, eating and drinking and rejoicing.
- Judah and Israel were many, like the grains of sand that are by the sea for multitude, eating and drinking and rejoicing. (**1 Kings 4:20**)
- And Judah and Israel continued to dwell in security, everyone under his own vine and under his own fig tree, from Dan to Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon. (**1 Kings 4:25**)
- **Happy** are your men. **Happy** are these servants of yours who are standing before you constantly, listening to your wisdom! (**1 Kings 10:8**)
- **Happy** are your men, and **happy** are these servants of yours who are standing before you constantly and listening to your wisdom. (**2 Chronicles 9:7**)
- This demonstrates the influence of righteous rule on a nation.
- When the righteous become many, the people rejoice, but when anyone wicked bears rule, the people sigh. (**Proverbs 29:2**)

- Where there is no vision the people go unrestrained, but happy are they that are keeping the Law. (**Proverbs 29:18**)
- Jesus made clear the requirement for national happiness to the nationalistic Jews who thought that because they were the fleshly descendants of Abraham and Jacob they were the **happy** nation whose God is Yehowah.
- **Happy** is the nation whose God is Yehowah, the people whom he has chosen as his inheritance. (**Psalms 33:12**)
- He plainly told them that the Kingdom of God would be taken from them and given to a nation producing its fruits.
- This is why I say to you, The kingdom of God will be taken from you and be given to a nation producing its fruits. (**Matthew 21:43**)
- The apostle Peter later applied the term **nation** to the spiritual ones in union with Christ, saying,
- But you are, a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies, of the one that called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (**1 Peter 2:9**)

•• **Christ's Counsel About Happiness**

- Jesus strikingly opened his Sermon on the Mount by enumerating nine **happinesses**, naming qualities that bring one into God's favor, with the prospect of inheriting the Kingdom of the heavens.
- When he saw the crowds he went up into the mountain, and after he sat down his disciples came to him. (**Matthew 5:1**)
- And he opened his mouth and began teaching them, saying; (**Matthew 5:2**)
- **Happy** are those conscious of their spiritual need, since the kingdom of the heavens belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:3**)
- **Happy** are those who mourn, since they will be comforted. (**Matthew 5:4**)

- **Happy** are the mild-tempered ones, since they will inherit the earth. (**Matthew 5:5**)
- **Happy** are those hungering and thirsting for righteousness, since they will be filled. (**Matthew 5:6**)
- **Happy** are the merciful, since they will be shown mercy. (**Matthew 5:7**)
- **Happy** are the pure in heart, since they will see God. (**Matthew 5:8**)
- **Happy** are the peaceable, since they will be called sons of God. (**Matthew 5:9**)
- **Happy** are those who have been persecuted for righteousness sake, since the kingdom of the heavens belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:10**)
- **Happy** are you when people reproach you and persecute you and lyingly say every sort of wicked thing against you for my sake. (**Matthew 5:11**)
- Rejoice and leap for joy, since your reward is great in the heavens, for in that way they persecuted the prophets prior to you. (**Matthew 5:12**)
- It is notable in these **happineses** that neither the condition in which a person finds himself because of time and unforeseen occurrence nor the purely humanitarian acts a person might perform bring the blessing of **happiness**.
- True **happiness** stems from those things that have to do with spirituality, the worship of God, and the fulfillment of God's promises. For example, Jesus says;
 - **Happy** are those conscious of their spiritual need, since the kingdom of the heavens belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:3**)
 - He goes on to say;
 - **Happy** are those who mourn, since they will be comforted. (**Matthew 5:4**)

- It is evident that he does not have in mind **all** persons who mourn for any reason. The mourning would be because of their poor spiritual state, their sinful condition, and the distressing circumstances that have resulted from human sinfulness, as well as their hunger and thirst for righteousness. Such mourners would be observed and favored by God with his blessing of spiritual satisfaction, just as Jesus promises. They will be filled.

- For sadness in a godly way makes for repentance to salvation that is not to be regretted, but the sadness of the world produces death. (**2 Corinthians 7:10**)

- The spirit of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah is upon me, for the reason that Yehowah has anointed me to tell Good News to the meek ones. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to those taken captive and the wide opening of the eyes even to the prisoners. (**Isaiah 61:1**)

- To proclaim the year of goodwill on the part of Yehowah and the day of vengeance on the part of our God, to comfort all the mourning ones. (**Isaiah 61:2**)

- To assign to those mourning over Zion, to give them a headdress instead of ashes, the oil of exultation instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of the downhearted spirit, and they must be called big trees of righteousness, the planting of Yehowah, for him to be beautified. (**Isaiah 61:3**)

- And Yehowah went on to say to him; Pass through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and you must put a mark on the foreheads of the men that are sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that are being done in the midst of it. (**Ezekiel 9:4**)

- In the book of Revelation, Jesus Christ, through the angelic messenger, proclaims seven **happinesses**.

- **Happy** is he who reads aloud and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and who observe the things written in it, for the appointed time is near. (**Revelation 1:3**)

- And I heard a voice out of heaven say; Write! **Happy** are the dead who die in union with the Lord from this time onward. Yes,

- says the spirit, let them rest from their labors, for the things they did go right with them. ([Revelation 14:13](#))
- Look! I am coming as a thief. **Happy** is the one that stays awake and keeps his outer garments, that he may not walk naked and people look upon his shamefulness. ([Revelation 16:15](#))
 - And he tells me; Write! **Happy** are those invited to the evening meal of the Lambs marriage. Also, he tells me; These are the true sayings of God. ([Revelation 19:9](#))
 - **Happy** and holy is anyone having part in the first resurrection, over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ, and will rule as kings with him for the thousand years. ([Revelation 20:6](#))
 - And, look! I am coming quickly. **Happy** is anyone observing the words of the prophecy of this scroll. ([Revelation 22:7](#))
 - **Happy** are those who wash their robes, that the authority to go to the trees of life may be theirs and that they may gain entrance into the city by its gates. ([Revelation 22:14](#))
 - The book declares, in its introduction,
 - **Happy** is he who reads aloud and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and who observe the things written in it, for the appointed time is near. ([Revelation 1:3](#))
 - And in its conclusion says:
 - **Happy** are those who wash their robes, that the authority to go to the trees of life may be theirs and that they may gain entrance into the city by its gates. ([Revelation 22:14](#))

•• Take Delight In Jehovah

- In summary, it is clear that those achieving real **happiness** are the holy nation of God.
- But you are, a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies, of the one that called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ([1 Peter 2:9](#))

- **Along with all others associated with that nation who serve and obey Yehowah from the heart. The psalmist says,**
- **Rejoice in Yehowah, O you righteous ones, and give thanks to his holy memorial. ([Psalms 97:12](#))**
- **The apostle Paul echoes this admonition in writing to the Christian congregation;**
- **Always rejoice in the Lord. Once more I will say; Rejoice! ([Philippians 4:4](#))**
- **It is, therefore, not in ones wealth or wisdom, nor in ones accomplishments or might that a person can find **happiness**. It is in knowledge of Jehovah, who counsels,**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; Let not the wise man brag about himself because of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man brag about himself because of his mightiness. Let not the rich man brag about himself because of his riches. ([Jeremiah 9:23](#))**
- **But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I do take **delight**, is the utterance of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 9:24](#))**