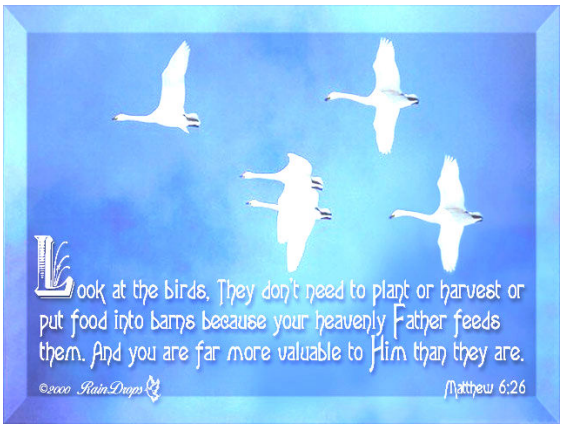
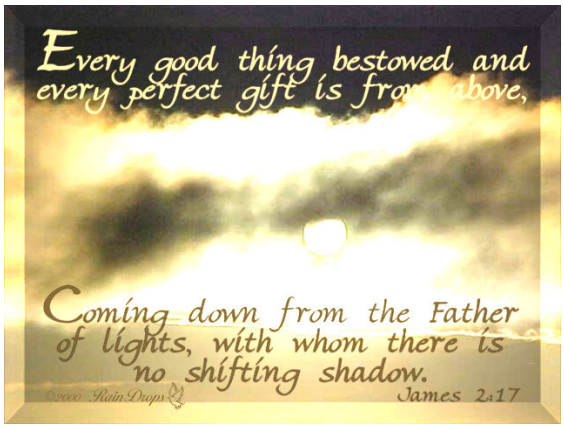
GOD'S CONCEPT OF HAPPINESS



Godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Timothy 6:6 NIV)

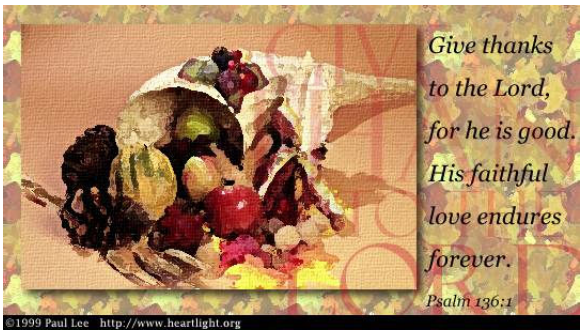
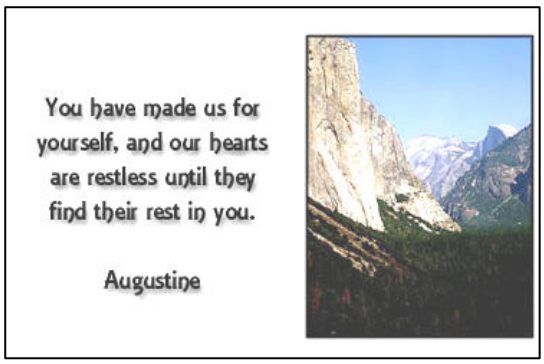


The world's concept of happiness is getting what we want. All merchandising is based on this idea. To really be happy, we need a flashier car, a sexier cologne, or any number of items that are better, faster or easier to use than what we already have. We watch the commercials, read the ads, and pursue all the latest fashions, fads and fancy doodads. We buy into the lie that we're not really happy until we get what we want.

God's concept of happiness is summed up in the simple proverb: ***"Happy is the man who wants what he has."*** As long as you are focusing on what you don't have, you'll be unhappy. But when you begin to appreciate what you already have, you'll begin to experience the joys of life. Paul wrote to Timothy: ***"Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that"*** (1 Timothy 6:6-8 NIV).

What Do I Have?
Physical Health
Skills/Talents
God
Healing
Creation
Protection from Adversity
Friends and Support
People
Possessions
Myself
Food and Shelter
Family

Actually, you already have everything you need to live a joyful life. You have Christ. You have eternal life. You are loved by a heavenly Father who has promised to supply all your needs. No wonder the Bible repeatedly commands us to be thankful. ***"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"*** (1 Thessalonians 5:18). If you really want to be happy, learn to be thankful for what you have and not covet what you don't have.

Father, today I want to seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, knowing that You will add to my life all that I need.

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