

May 12, 2020

Good morning, Everybody.

Last night during family worship we sang “**Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah**” (Psalm 146) from *Praise Glorious*.

The very next psalm, 147, begins,

*Praise the LORD!
For it is good to sing praises to our God;
For it is pleasant and praise is becoming.*

The word translated **pleasant** is used of . . .

the **pleasures** that will be ours at God’s right hand forever (Ps. 16:11).

the **sweet sounding** music of a harp (Ps. 81:3).

the **pleasantness** of believing brothers dwelling together in unity (Ps. 133:1).

Wouldn’t it be good to aim for that sensation of **pleasantness** in our family worship times when we’re singing the Lord’s praises together? The sensation we experience when soft, beautiful music washes over our spirit or when in the warm, happy company of brethren with whom we feel completely at ease? The sensation we anticipate when we’re finally at home with the Lord?

I’m a little ashamed for not making more of an effort to nurture that atmosphere in our family worship times. And, of course, it’s especially difficult for those of you with large families of squirming little people (smile). But I can do better. Maybe you can too. Not so much because the people in our home really *need* that joy when they meet for Bible reading and prayer, but because it must be somewhat dishonoring of the LORD to be glum when we’re singing about Him. Something like handing your mother a card or flowers with a yawn, grimace, or groan last Sunday. We really should promote happiness when we fellowship about the LORD. *Happy is that people whose God is the LORD* (Psalm 144:15).

Ecstasy and delight are essential to the believer’s soul. . . . We are not



meant to live without spiritual exhilaration, and the Christian who goes for a long time without the experience of heart-warming will soon find himself tempted to have his emotions satisfied with earthly things and not, as he ought, from the Spirit of God.

*The believer is in spiritual danger if he allows himself to go for any length of time without tasting the love of Christ and savouring the felt comforts of a Savior's presence. When Christ ceases to fill the heart with satisfaction, our souls will go in silent search of other lovers (Maurice Roberts, *The Thought of God*).*

Better beware of dead, dry family worship! What can you do to brighten the faces?

Praying for You Today,

Pastor Minnick