

# **Pleasing God**

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## Prov. 3:5-10

More than anything else, we need to please God.

There are several basic principles of pleasing God in Prov. 3:5-10.

In this lesson I want to cover the five basic principles mentioned in the following scripture.

Prov. 3:5-10, “(1) Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and (2) lean not unto thine own understanding. (3) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (4) Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. (5) Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.”

## Trust in the Lord

This means place your faith and confidence in God.

### **Adam and Eve failed to trust God.**

- Gen. 2:16-17, “*And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*”
- Gen. 3:6, “*And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*”
- Gen. 3:14-19, “*And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened*

*unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”*

**However, God loved David because of his trust in Him.**

*Psalms 18:2, “The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.”*

**Job trusted God despite all that happened to him.**

*Job 13:15, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him:...”*

**We also are to trust in the Lord despite what may happen to us in this life.**

*1 Tim. 4:10, “For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.”*

## **Lean not unto thine own understanding**

Sometimes man is tempted to lean upon his own understanding.

Man cannot direct his own steps to obtain eternal life, although much of the religious world seem to be trying just that.

*Jer. 10:23, “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”*

The religious world think they can make up the rules and that is the reason there are so many churches in the world today. The religious world is so divided because they fail to make God the final authority.

They fail to realize that God’s ideas are so very much different and better than anything that we can come up with.

*Isa. 55:8-9, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”*

**Many religious people today say “I think” or “In my opinion”.**

Old-time preachers would not let anyone get away with using personal opinion as a persuasive argument.

- Prov. 14:12, *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”*
- Luke 6:46, *“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”*
- Matt. 7:21, *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”*
- Matt. 26:39, *“And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”*

## **We must let God’s word guide us.**

- Matt. 4:4, *“...It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”*
- John 14:21, *“He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”*

## **In all thy ways acknowledge him**

God as creator has specified how man must worship Him.  
He has never allowed another god.

Exo. 20:3-4, *“Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.”*

## **Some people refuse to worship Him because they cannot see Him.**

But He has proven His existence even as evident in nature.

Rom. 1:18-20, *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”*

## **Many people take credit themselves for the good in their lives instead of giving God the credit.**

- James 1:17, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”*
- Eph. 5:20, *“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”*

If we refuse to acknowledge Him in our lives, He'll reject us.

## **Be not wise in thine own eyes**

This is a warning to us of the sin of pride.

- Prov. 16:18, *“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”*
- Rom. 12:16, *“Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.”*

## **Pride brought Nebuchadnezzar down.**

Dan. 4:29-32, *“At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty? While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.”*

We cannot please God if we have pride in our heart.

## **Honour the LORD with thy substance**

Selfishness toward God has been an age-old problem.

Giving is God's test of man's love.

## **We are to lay up our treasures in heaven.**

- Matt. 6:19-20, *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves*

*break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.”*

- God desires cheerful giving.
- 2 Cor. 9:7, “*Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*”
- 2 Cor. 9:6, “*But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.*”
- Acts 20:35, “*... It is more blessed to give than to receive.*”

## **Conclusion**

Are you pleasing God in these 5 ways?

Remember, the greatest thing in life is to please Him.









