

## BE HAPPY

There are many things happening in the world around us that, if allowed, can consume us and destroy our happiness. In order for us to be truly happy, our happiness needs to be properly planted in the right soil. “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only so, but we also *joy in God* through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we have now received the atonement” (Rom. 5:10-11, emphasis B.G.). Though there are things in this life that bring us joy and happiness, true happiness is in God. We must continually remind ourselves of this fact. In so doing, we will choose to remain close to Him. A happy person is one who studies regularly (2 Tim. 2:15), for “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Rom. 10:17). The apostle John states, “and these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full” (1 John 1:4). A happy person is one who prays regularly and often (1 The. 5:17). Prayer is a blessing to those who are in Christ so that we can “come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:14-16). A happy person is also someone who tries to share their happiness with others. No one can be happy if they always traipse around with a frown upon their face. Neither do they share any joy with others having such an attitude. The Bible teaches, “Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice” (Phi. 4:4). It has been said, “Smile, and the world will smile with you.”

Let us place our trust and joy in God and His Word and share it with the world.

- *Brad Green*

## TEN RULES TO BEING TRULY MISERABLE

[The following appears in the *Northside Anchor*,  
publication of the Northside church of Christ, Calhoun, GA.]

As a service to those who have made the decision to be miserable, we offer the following ten guidelines for being miserable and enjoying it:

1. Think and talk about yourself as much as possible.
2. Measure your happiness by the amount of money or possessions you own.
3. Be suspicious and jealous of everyone.
4. Be sensitive, easily offended, and impossible to be comforted.
5. Never forget a criticism or another person's mistakes.
6. Think the worst about everyone.
7. Demand agreement with your opinions.
8. Never forget a good deed you have done.
9. Shirk your duties whenever you can.

10. Refuse to forgive or show mercy to anyone.

You might be able to be perfectly miserable without following these guidelines, but if you fall short, that is just one more way of achieving depression, despair, and distress. You have to make your choice and then work at it. Have a miserable day!