**7 Things That Please God**

*2 Corinthians 5:6-11*

*Proverbs 6:16-19*

**Introduction**

1. While we are still on earth our journey continues as pilgrims.
2. Because we are walking by faith we are absent from the Lord.
3. This causes us to be diligent to be well pleasing to Him.
4. Proverbs 6 describes some things God hates. Their antonyms prove pleasing to God. We should pursue them.
5. Humility. *(“A proud look”)*

* Philippians 2:3-8
  + We are to be humble people.
  + Christ serves as a great example.
* James 4:7-10
  + Humility leads to reward and exaltation.
  + God resists the proud because it is an attitude that displays self-first, and lack of dependency upon God.

1. Speaking truth. *(“A lying tongue”)*

* Ephesians 4:14-15
  + The edification we receive from the structure of the church allows us, and requires us to speak the truth in love.
  + 4:25 – As members of the body we must continually speak the truth to each other.
* Colossians 3:8-10
  + Because we have put on Christ we must not lie.
  + As imitators of Christ, lying is prohibited.
  + Love rejoices in the truth! – 1 Corinthians 13:6

1. A heart full of love. *(“Hands that shed innocent blood”)*

* Murder starts in the heart (cf. Matthew 5:21-22). The opposite attitude is pleasing to God.
* Love toward brethren – 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:10-15
  + We cannot fulfill our duties toward God while hating our brother – 4:20-21

1. A heart that devises righteous plans. *(“A heart that devises wicked plans”)*

* Jeremiah 10:23
  + As individuals that are incapable of guiding ourselves, we must not devise plans that are wise in our own ways.
  + This is how wicked plans are made.
* Colossians 3:17
  + We are to follow what God has said.
  + Our plans should reflect that of the pattern (cf. Hebrews 8:5).
  + All else is wicked.

1. Feet that are swift in running away from evil. *(“Feet that are swift in running to evil”*)

* 1Thessalonians 5:21-22
  + God takes pleasure in men seeking what is right and holding on to it while staying away from evil things.
* James 1:27
  + We must not be seen as part of the world!
  + We are God’s special, or peculiar, people (cf. 1 Peter 2:9-11).
* 2 Timothy 2:22 – FLEE lust!

1. One who advocates justice and mercy. (A false witness seeks injustice. He seeks to condemn those who are right, and commend those who are wrong. As Christians we must be just as God is just.) *(“A false witness who speaks lies”)*

* Our Lord was a victim of false witnesses who speak lies.
* Proverbs 3:3-4; 21:15
  + We should seek to exhibit mercy and truth.
  + It should cause us joy to be involved in justice.

1. One who sows peace among brethren. *(“One who sows discord among brethren”)*

* The unity of the body is at stake! – Ephesians 4:1-3
  + Matthew 5:9
* We must seek to do and speak only those things that would build up! – Ephesians 4:29