

God Wants Us To Be Happy

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- Psalms 40:16 - “Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let such as love Your salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified!”
- Psalm 105:3 - “Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!”
- Psalm 97:12 - “Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.”

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- Psalm 98:4 - "Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises."
- Phil. 2:18 - "For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me."
- Phil. 4:4 - "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"
- 1Thes. 5:16-18 - "Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

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- Abraham Lincoln - "People are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."
- Marcus Antonius - "No man is happy who does not think himself so."
- Roger L'Estrange - "It is not the place, nor the condition, but the mind alone that can make anyone happy or miserable."

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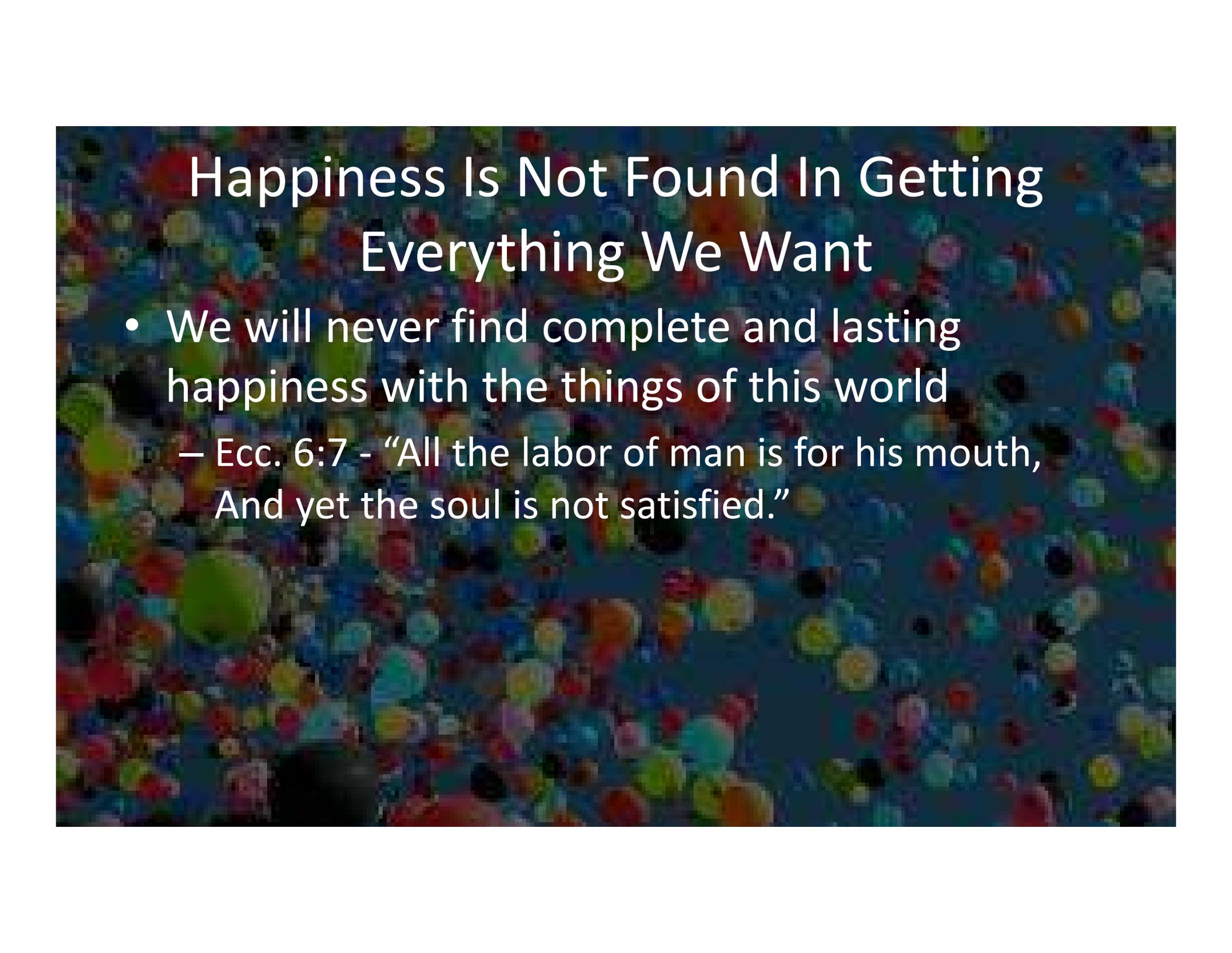
- Matt. 5:3-12 - “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Happiness Is Not Found In Getting Everything We Want

- “It is better to desire the things we have, than to have the things we desire” (Henry Van Dyke).
 - Ecc. 2:1-11
- “Unhappy is the man who is not so much dissatisfied with what he has as with what the other fellow possesses” (Chauncey Depew, former Chairman of the Board of the New York Central Railroad and a two term US Senator).
- “Happiness is being satisfied with what we have got and with what we haven’t got” (Charles Spurgeon).

Happiness Is Not Found In Getting Everything We Want

- 1Tim. 6:6-10 - “Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”



Happiness Is Not Found In Getting Everything We Want

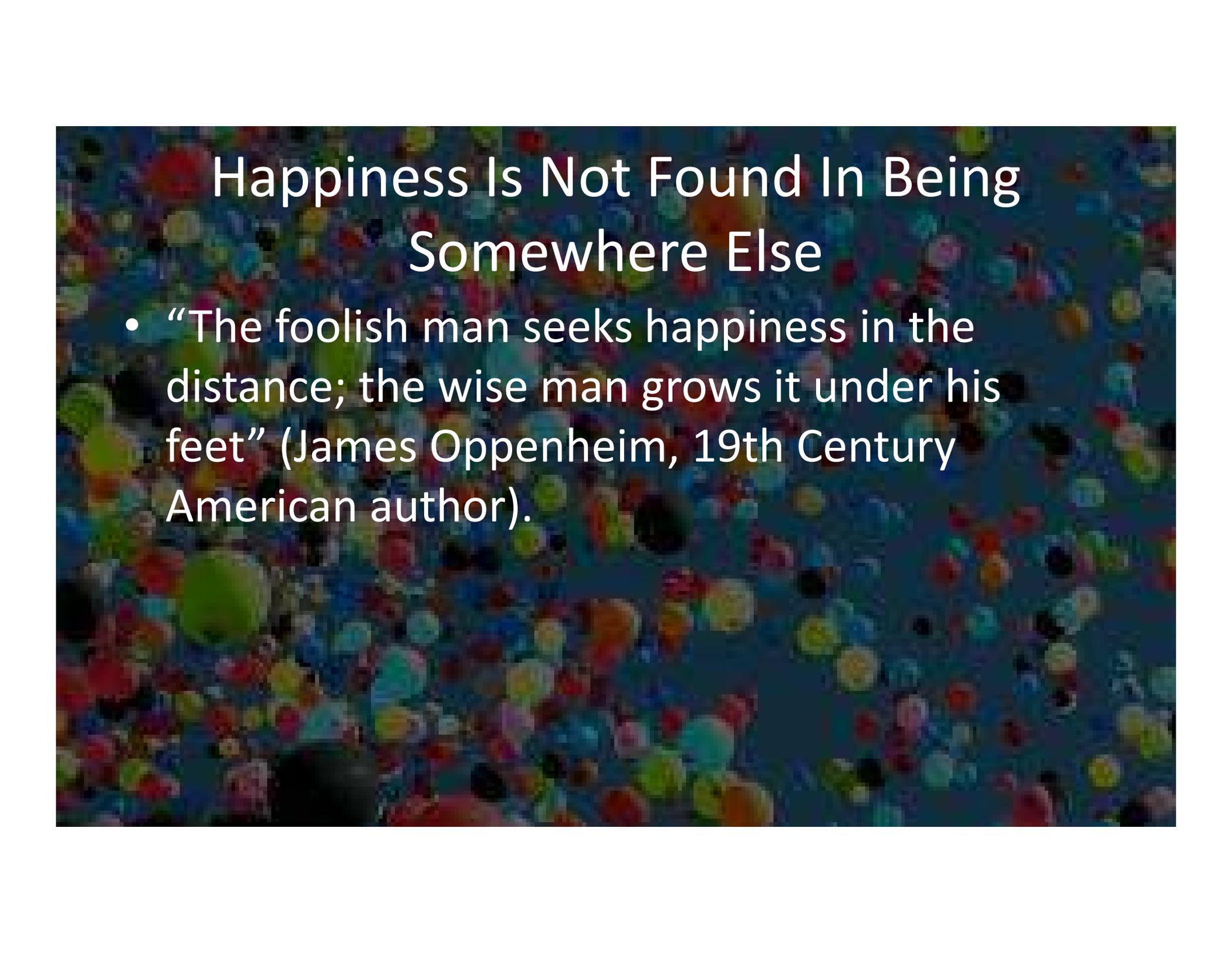
- We will never find complete and lasting happiness with the things of this world
 - Ecc. 6:7 - “All the labor of man is for his mouth,
And yet the soul is not satisfied.”

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Someone Other Than Ourselves

- Charles A. Stoddard - “We love in others what we lack in ourselves, and would be everything but what we are.”
- The Lord expects each one to do according to his own ability, not according to the abilities of others
 - Matt. 25:15 - “And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability...”

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Someone Other Than Ourselves

- The church functions best when each person fulfills the part for which the Lord suited them
 - Eph. 4:11-13, 15-16 - “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ... 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”



Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- “The foolish man seeks happiness in the distance; the wise man grows it under his feet” (James Oppenheim, 19th Century American author).

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- Num. 11:4-6 - “Now the mixed multitude who were among them yielded to intense craving; so the children of Israel also wept again and said: Who will give us meat to eat? 5 We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6 but now our whole being is dried up; there is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!”

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- Num. 13:30-33 - “Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it. 31 But the men who had gone up with him said, We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we. 32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- Luke 15:11-18 - "Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. 17 But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you"

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- This is a fallen world.
- Our home is in heaven.
 - Rom. 8:18 - “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”
 - 2Cor. 4:17-18 - “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- 2Cor. 4:1 - "Knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you."
- 1Peter 1:6 - "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials"
- 1Peter 5:10 - "But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you."

Happiness Is Not Found In Being Somewhere Else

- Happiness is in the Lord and His word, not in the things of this world.
 - Deut. 33:29 - “Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD?”
 - Psalm 144:15 - “Happy are the people who are in such a state; Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!”
 - Prov. 16:20 - “He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.”