

The Attackers: The Development of Inner Happiness; Jesus' Happiness on the Cross, Heb 12:2; Unalloyed Happiness, 1 John 1:4; Jas 1:2-4; 5:11; Rom 15:13; Ps 100:2; Phil 4:11; The Lord's Staying Power on the Cross; Summary of Spiritual Metabolism & Capacity Righteousness

20. True happiness occurs when the believer fulfills the plan of God for his life. This happiness is made available by learning the details of that plan revealed only in the Word of God.

1 John 1:4 - We write these things to you in order that your state of happiness [*χαρά (chará)*] might be complete [**unalloyed**].

21. Scripture informs us that happiness is built from the strength accumulated from successfully using doctrine to endure testing for blessing. When we see doctrine work we are motivated to study and that study results in momentum.

James 1:2 - Fellow believers, after weighing the facts, conclude it all happiness [*πᾶς χαρά (pás chará)*] whenever you become involved in the various categories of testing,

v. 3 - knowing that the testing is for the approval of your doctrine producing patience.

v. 4 - But let patience keep on having quality production, so that you may be mature and undamaged, being deficient in nothing.

22. Perseverance under pressure produces blessing from God which indicates His recognition of your loyalty to doctrine:

James 5:11 - We consider happy [*μακαρίζω (makarízō)*] the ones having endured. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

23. The word we translate "happy" in James 5:11 is not *chará* but the verb *makarízō* which is translated "blessed" in all the major English translations. But, like *chará*, the verb *makarízō* is also best translated "happy."

24. Trusting in God through loyalty to His Word allows the Father to make you happy by means of divine blessings:

Romans 15:13 - May the God of confidence fill you with great happiness [*χαρά (chará)*] and prosperity as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with confidence by means of the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

25. The Psalmists often commented on the status of happiness and a good example of the Hebrew concept of unalloyed happiness is expressed in reciprocal gratitude to God in:

Psalms 100:2 - Serve the Lord with super-abundance of happiness [*הִמְחֵשׁ simchah*]; come before Him with joyful exuberance [*רִנָּה (renanah)*].

26. This overflowing confidence combined with overflowing happiness produces a major problem-solving device against the disillusion of life – contentment:

Philippians 4:11 - Not that I am speaking with reference to poverty, for I have learned in whatever circumstances I am to keep on being content [*αὐτάρκης (autárkēs)*]: satisfied with one's lot in life, i.e., copacetic].

27. These passages just noted emphasize the principle that the believer in Jesus Christ who has developed the “staying power” of *esōterikē harmonia* – personal love for God, unconditional love for mankind, and unalloyed happiness – is not influenced by the world’s allurements of a false happiness.
28. The world’s pursuit of maximum happiness and the desire for minimum pain is a lifestyle that functions under the principle of the frantic search for happiness.
29. The power of capacity righteousness in association with the unalloyed happiness produces occupation with Christ. Such happiness is available to every generation of believers throughout the Church Age; it just simply has to be pursued.
30. It is impossible to build one’s happiness at the expense of someone else’s unhappiness. This is the fallacy of Progressive ideology which pursues the unachievable nirvana of equality.
31. When, under the force of law, possessions are confiscated from the haves to placate the have-nots the end result is unhappiness for all. The taxed person is diminished while the recipient develops an insatiable thirst for endless largess.

Summary:

1. We have now completed two studies:
 - (1) **The Doctrine of Spiritual Metabolism:**
 - I. Biological Illustration: Respiration of Air & Digestion of Food
 - II. Metabolism Is Analogous to Operation Z
 - III. Metabolism of Truth as a Problem Solver
 - (2) **The Doctrine of Capacity Righteousness:**
 - I. Introduction
 - II. Capacity & the Divine Initiatives
 - III. Summary of Capacity Righteousness
 - IV. Capacity Righteousness & True Happiness
2. These two doctrines explain what Paul had in mind when he spoke of the breastplate of righteousness as part of the armor with which the believer is to dress his soul.
3. The first element he mentions is the belt of truth. All spiritual growth and preparation begins and ends with truth – the inerrant revelation of God to man contained in the Bible.
4. Once the believer identifies the source of his spiritual growth then he must access its teachings under the teaching ministries of his right pastor-teacher while filled with the Holy Spirit.
5. The inculcation of truth into the soul is a process referred to as putting on the breastplate of righteousness.
6. As food is consumed into the body for physical sustenance so also truth must be metabolized into the soul for spiritual sustenance.
7. The continuous enlargement of one’s spiritual inventory of ideas is described by the term “capacity righteousness.”

8. The Word of God is absolutely righteous and the believer's knowledge of this information gives him capacity to execute the Christian way of life.
9. Capacity is defined as the "power and ability of receiving ideas or knowledge."