

144. Pleasing or Grieving?

By Sharon Steen

Our thoughts, decisions and actions effect those around us and God takes notice also. What do you want God to notice about you?

From the beginning of time, starting with Genesis, mankind whom God created out of a heart of love has continuously rebelled against Him and displeased Him to the point sometimes where He regretted ever creating man.

Then thankfully, there have been those whom God has been pleased with, and I'm sure God wished there were more of.

Genesis 1:31 (New King James Version): *Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was VERY good.*

Genesis 2:17 (New King James Version): *tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat.*

Adam & Eve: Deception, Lies & Disobedience

Genesis 1 & 2

Cain & Abel: Murder

Genesis 4:3,4,8 (New King James Version): ³ *And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering. ⁸ Now Cain talked with Abel his brother and it came to pass when they were in the field that Cain rose up against his brother and killed him.*

Sarai: Impatience, Unbelief & Strife

Genesis 16:1-5 (New King James Version): *Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. ² So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the Lord has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall ^[a] obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. ³ Then Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan. ⁴ So he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, "My wrong be upon you! I gave my maid into your embrace; and when she saw that she had conceived, I became despised in her eyes. The Lord judge between you and me."*

Jacob & Esau: Deception & Lies

Genesis 25:21-23 (New King James Version): ²¹ *Now Isaac pleaded with the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²² But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If all is well, why am I like this?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her: "Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger."*

Children of Israel: Impatience & Rebellion

Exodus 32:1-10 (New King James Version): *Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."² And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."³ So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.⁴ And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"⁵ So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord."⁶ Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"⁹ And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!¹⁰ Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation."*

Isaiah 63:10 (New King James Version): *"But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit."*

Exodus 32:9 (New American Standard Bible): *And the Lord said to Moses, I have seen this people, and behold they are an OBSTINATE people.*

Nadab & Abihu: Pride & Disobedience

Leviticus 9:22 (New King James Version): *Then Aaron lifted his hand toward the people, blessed them, and came down from offering the sin offering, the burnt offering, and peace offerings.*

Leviticus 10:1-2 (New Living Translation): *Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu put coals of fire in their incense burners and sprinkled incense over them, in this way they disobeyed the Lord by burning before Him the wrong kind of fire, different than He had commanded.*

Jezebel: Hater of God & Murderer

1 Kings 18:4 (New King James Version): *For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the Lord.*

Noah: Obedient

Genesis 6:8-9 (New King James Version): *But Noah found grace in the sight of Lord. Noah walked with God.*

Genesis 8:1 (New King James Version): *Then God remembered Noah.*

Abraham: Obedient & Faithful

Genesis 18:19 (New King James Version): *For I have known him, in order that he may command his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord to do righteousness and justice.*

2 Kings 13:22-23 (New King James Version): *²² And Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz, ²³ but the Lord was gracious to them, had compassion on them, and regarded them*

because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and would not yet destroy them or cast them from His presence.

Joseph: Honest, Righteous & Loyal

Joshua: Courageous & Obedient

Joshua 6:27 (New King James Version): *So the Lord was with Joshua and his fame spread throughout all the country.*

Jeremiah: Selfless & Obedient

Jeremiah 4:14 (New King James Version): *O Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness.*

Stephen: Acts 6:8 (New King James Version): *And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great signs and wonders among the people.*

Ananias: Acts 9:10 (New King James Version): *Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."*

Lydia: Acts 16:14 (New King James Version): *Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.*

Jesus's actions and words were always challenged and that saddened Him.

Mark 3:5 (New Living Translation): *He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts.*

Mark 3:21 (New Living Translation): *When His family heard what was happening, they tried to take Him away. He's out of His mind they said.*

Mark 5:40: Jairus' house, crowd laughed at Him.

Mark 6:1-3: Jesus was scoffed in His own hometown and they did not believe in Him.

Luke 5:22: Pharisees questioned Him regarding the paralyzed man.

Luke 11:53: Pharisees and religious leaders wanted to trap Jesus with His own words.

John 10:22: They wanted to stone Jesus

1 Timothy 4:16 (New Living Translation): *Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you.*

