



Ephesians 1:5-9

# Pleasing God

***"The Good Pleasure of His Will"***

## I. GOD'S PURPOSE IN SALVATION

*II Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."*

### A. TO REDEEM US (EPHESIANS 1:7)

*Romans 5:8, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

### B. TO ACCEPT US (EPHESIANS 1:5-6)

## II. GOD'S PURPOSE IN SANCTIFICATION

### A. GOD SANCTIFIES THROUGH HIS SPIRIT

1. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise (Ephesians 1:13).
2. We are sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

*I Peter 1:2, "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied."*

3. Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

*I Corinthians 6:19-20, "<sup>19</sup> What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*

### B. GOD SANCTIFIES THROUGH HIS WORD

*John 17:17, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."*

### C. GOD SANCTIFIES US FOR HIS SERVICE

*II Timothy 2:21, "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work."*

## III. GOD'S PURPOSE IN STEWARDSHIP

*I Corinthians 4:2, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."*

### A. STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

*Ephesians 5:16, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."*

*I Corinthians 16:2, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."*

*Hebrews 10:25, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*

### B. STEWARDSHIP OF TALENTS

*I Corinthians 6:20, "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*

*I Peter 4:10, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."*

### C. STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

1. Giving Proves God

*Proverbs 3:9, "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:"*

*Malachi 3:8-10, "<sup>8</sup> Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. <sup>10</sup> Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."*

2. Giving Purposes for God

*II Corinthians 9:6-7, "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. <sup>7</sup> Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."*

3. Giving Prepares for God

*I Timothy 6:18, "That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;"*