

How to be Happy Though Human

A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE OF PEOPLE AND PROBLEMS

All around us **people** are falling apart because **relationships** are falling apart, and **relationships** are falling apart because **people** are falling apart.

WE ARE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

*The privilege of being human.
(Genesis 1:27)*

WE ARE FINITE AND FALLEN

*The pain of being human.
(Genesis 3)*

WE ARE **PERSONAL** BEINGS.

God made us in His image.

We have legitimate **personal needs** that often go **unmet**.

WE ARE **RATIONAL** BEINGS.

God gave us the ability to think.

We tend to **think incorrectly** about how to meet our needs.

WE ARE **VOLITIONAL** BEINGS.

God gave us the ability to choose.

We often **choose** sinful or irresponsible **goals** and **behaviors**.

WE ARE **EMOTIONAL** BEINGS.

God gave us the capacity to feel.

We tend to mishandle our **feelings**, or allow them to mishandle us.

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Part 1 - Our Longings as PERSONAL Beings

As PERSONAL beings, it is essential that our deepest personal needs are **identified** and properly **satisfied**.

- The basic need within **every** human being that **persistently** craves to be satisfied is a **sense of personal worth**.
 - Gaining this sense of personal worth requires two kinds of input:
 - Security** - "I'm loved."
 - Significance** - "I'm having an impact."
 - **Without** these needs being met, people show troublesome evidence of **personal breakdown**.
 - From birth to death, people work on **pumping up** and **protecting** their sense of personal worth.
- The sense of worth that most people "settle for" may be reasonably satisfying, but most likely it is:
 - Only **Temporary**
 - Very **Fragile**
 - Ultimately **Groundless**
- This is especially true if our worth is based on:

Beauty



Bucks



Brains



Brawn



Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."

Jeremiah 9:23-24 ESV

Only **JESUS CHRIST** provides **genuine personal worth**.

- In **Christ alone** we have **REAL SECURITY**.

...and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

For one will hardly die for a righteous person; though perhaps for the good person someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

And not only this, but we also celebrate in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Romans 5:5-11 NASB

Who will separate us from the **love of Christ**?

Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Just as it is written, "For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through **Him who loved us**.

For **I am convinced** that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from

the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:35-39 NASB

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, **being rooted and grounded in love**, may be able to comprehend with all the saints

what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to **know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge**, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:14-19 NASB

*"Having a convinced awareness of being unconditionally and totally loved, without needing to change in order to **win** love, loved by a love which is **freely** given, which cannot be **earned**, and therefore cannot be **lost**."*

Definition of Real Security, Dr. Larry Crabb

- In **Christ alone** we have **REAL SIGNIFICANCE**.

For we are **His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but **our adequacy is from God**.

2 Corinthians 3:5 NASB

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through **Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation**

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 ESV

*"Having a realization of personal adequacy for involvement in something which is truly **important**, where the results will not **evaporate** with time, but will **last** through eternity; Having a **meaningful** impact on others."*

Definition of Real Significance, Dr. Larry Crabb

KEEP LOOKING TO CHRIST ALONE FOR YOUR PERSONAL WORTH

Don't be guilty of the **sin of misplaced dependency***

Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked, be utterly desolate,
declares the Lord,
for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living waters,
and hewed out cisterns for themselves,
broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Jeremiah 2:12-13 ESV

****Depending on anyone or anything other than JESUS CHRIST as the basis for our personal worth.***