



Wayne's Weekly Words

WHERE'S PASTOR JIM'S ISUZU RODEO?

One of the biggest desires of Jim's heart is to have a new Isuzu Rodeo - so, why doesn't he have one?

The Psalmist wrote, "*Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.*" Psalm 37:4

I cannot think of anyone I know who delights theirself in the Lord more than Pastor Jim. So, what's with God's promise? Why doesn't Gail have a Toyota Land Cruiser? Why don't you have the desire of your heart?

Let's consider the Psalm a little more closely. *Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.* Psalm 37:3-5

In order to claim this promise we must fulfill it premises. These are:

(1) Trusting and doing good, (2) Dwelling and feeding, (3) Delighting, (4) Committing, and, again (5) Trusting. If you are to obtain the desires of your heart, you must do all of these.

TRUST (בטח). This verb is found many times in the Old Testament. As a command, it is found, not only here, but in Proverbs 3:5-6

***Trust** in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.*

Here is a definition of "trust." It means not depending on our own understanding. It means following His directions by acknowledging Him. Also, according to the Psalm, it means doing what is good - in His sight.

DWELL (שכנ). This is also a common verb in the Old Testament. As a command, it is found only here and in Jeremiah 48:28 (dwell in a rock) and in Genesis 26:2-3 *Then the Lord appeared to him and said: "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you. Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and*

bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.

There was famine in the land and Isaac was about to flee to Egypt when the Lord gave this command. There was food in Egypt, but Egypt typifies the world. We need no worldly food, we need spiritual food. Isaac must stay in the land of promise to receive spiritual blessings. The same applies to us.

DELIGHT (גנן). This verb is rare in the Old Testament and is found as a command only here. Its root meaning means to be "delicate" or "dainty." It is found in a rather gruesome passage as follows in Deut. 28:56: *The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter.* I shall not go into the context other than to say that it predicts times when this otherwise "delicate" women becomes hardened and harsh. The command here, then, is to be like a sweet, submissive bride to the Lord. We are to enjoy the things He enjoys.

COMMIT (ללג): This word is rather common in the Old Testament but is almost always translated "to roll" or "to roll away." As a verb, we find Proverbs 16:3: ***Commit** your works to the Lord, And your thoughts will be established.* But, also, Psalm 119:22: ***Remove** (roll away) from me reproach and contempt, For I have kept Your testimonies.* The idea is to remove (roll away) the burden from your own back and place it on the Lord. Allow the Lord to do the leading in your life.

So! What about getting an Isuzu Rodeo? The answer is that, if you are faithful in doing these prerequisites, the desires of our hearts will be the Lord's desires and, I do not believe, the Lord cares for Isuzu Rodeos (nor really, does Pastor Jim).

Wayne

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