

Pleased with His Creation

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A Lifetime Journey toward Rediscovering God's Love for You
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by C. D. Hildebrand

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.

After six days of creating, God looked at what He created and was pleased with His work. Perhaps you know the joy of being able to create something. Let's say you are a carpenter; then you know the satisfaction that comes when you finish a piece you designed. Maybe you are a chef, and you can identify with the joy of coming up with a new menu item that is perfect in every way. Any type of artist also knows the joy of creating a work of art and feeling pleased with it.

Parents also experience this joy as they watch their children growing up. That is just a small hint of what God felt when He created the earth. It all made sense and was in perfect order. The work of creation pleased Him, and He was satisfied.

This beautiful landscape was destroyed by sin, but God had a plan to restore man by sending His Son to pay the penalty for Adam's transgression. In Christ, we were recreated.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

He not only recreated us, but He is right now transforming us into the image of His dear Son—working in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure (2 Cor. 3:18, Phil. 2:13). This is the rest we find in Jesus. He does all of the work we could not possibly accomplish.

Levi's Quilt

For each of our eleven grandchildren, I made a very special quilt. Each one is unique, as are each one of them. When we found out our second grandchild was on the way, it was time to tackle quilt number two. As soon as the gender was revealed and the nursery colors determined, preparation got underway. I pored over quilting books searching for just the right design. As I did not yet own an abundance of scraps, days were spent visiting multiple sewing stores searching for the dozens of fabrics needed for a baby quilt that would have hundreds of pieces. Much love and planning went into what colors looked best with each other so the finished quilt would look fantastic. Then came the measuring and cutting, which took many days until finally, the pieces were sewn together to form the many squares, which were then joined to make bigger squares. After making a patchwork border, the time came to hand-sew the whole quilt together.

It seemed to take forever just to sew the face of the quilt, but finally, it was finished. Before ironing it in preparation to sew the front to the back by hand, I laid it on a flat surface to inspect my work. Suddenly, my eyes began to well with tears. The vision for the blanket I'd created was exactly what I wanted, and my heart was glowing with joy and satisfaction. It was beautiful.

I began to wonder if perhaps my feelings might be laced with a little too much pride in my creation. How could I get so emotional about a baby blanket? Then it happened.

A thought came into my heart as if God had been watching me the whole time. "That's how I feel when I look at you, Cathy," He said. "I am pleased with the work I'm doing in your life."

Then the tears that had been welling up in my eyes overflowed, and I began to weep tears of joy.

God was pleased with me! My life brought Him pleasure, and even though He did it all, there was nothing more important to me than knowing I brought Him joy. Just as the blanket itself had nothing to do with it being so beautiful, I had nothing to do with what God was accomplishing in me. He was teaching me how to live by grace through faith, and that faith allowed God to complete the work He started.

When the world looks at us, they see only our obvious flaws. They just see our outward shells and assume the shell is who we are. God, however, sees us—the ones He’s been designing since we were in the womb. He sees our hearts, and He not only loves us, but He is pleased because we believe in Him.

God is satisfied with the work He is doing in your life. He is beaming with pride at who you are becoming. God sees the new creation He has made you, and He sees ahead to the completed work and indeed, behold, it is “very good.” Even if you are still very rough around the edges, He isn’t alarmed. He has faith in His power to transform you.

Psalms 139:14-18

I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Marvelous are Your works,

And that my soul knows very well.

My frame was not hidden from You,

When I was made in secret,

And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me,

When as yet there were none of them.

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O

God! How great is the sum of them!

If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand;

When I awake, I am still with You.

“God, the thought that simply believing in You is what pleases You touches our hearts so deeply. You aren’t asking us to perform spiritual gymnastics, to run spiritual marathons, or lift spiritual weights. You are simply asking us to believe in Your goodness and love, to reach out in faith to You when facing troubles, and rest in who You are and in what You provide for us. What is still lacking in our personal development is for You to accomplish. Thank-You that You are working in us both to do and to will of Your good pleasure. You love us, and we trust in Your love.”

*I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,
always in every prayer of mine making request for
you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel
from the first day until now, being confident of
this very thing, that He who has begun a good
work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus
Christ.*

Philippians 1:3-6