

Sermon Notes
Apple of His Eye - Deut 32:10
June 21, 2020

I. Introduction

- a. ever heard the phrase *apple of his eye*... Gregory's Pastoral Care (880AD)... Midsummer's Nights Dream (1600)... Holy Spirit (1400BC)... Deut 32:10 MSG... "found him in the wilderness... in empty wasteland... threw arms around him... lavished attention... guarding him as apple of His eye..." Psa 17:8... "protect me as the apple of Your eye..." Zech 2:8... "anyone who harms you harms my most precious possession..."
- b. **apple of my eye**: *precious and important; to hold dear, the light of one's life; treasuring one thing over another; cherish above all others...*
- c. that's truth of what God says about you... must know and believe truth to be set free... separate truth from lies about our Father... pray... John 8:32-47... "then you will know the truth... truth will set you free..." 1John 4:16... "we have come to know and believe the love God has for us..."

II. Apple of His Eye

- a. things on video are NOT true... might believe them if you didn't know me... believe lies about God cause we don't know Him... affects our relationship... John 8... "don't know the Father... why can't you understand..." John 16... "they do these things because they don't know the Father..." John 17... "Father, the world has not known you..." Rom 1... "they suppress truth... know truth because He made it obvious... can clearly see God... have no excuse... wouldn't worship or give Him thanks..."
- b. still not connecting... how about this video... those things not true either... yet if those kids believe it... won't want anything to do with a father like that... what lies are you believing about God that keep you away from His love... 1John 3:1... "how great is the Father's love... that we are called His children..."
- c. **Lie** - Distant and Disinterested **Truth** - Intimate and Involved
Psa 139... "You know everything about me... when I sit or stand... You know my thoughts... Your hand will guide me and support me... You made me... Your works are marvelous... how precious are Your thoughts about me..."
- d. **Lie** - Insensitive and Uncaring **Truth** - Kind and Compassionate
Psa 103:8-14... "the Lord is compassionate and merciful... slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love... He does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve... He is like a father to his children... tender and compassionate..." Eph 2:7... "He displays the immeasurable riches of grace thru His kindness..."
- e. **Lie** - Stern and Demanding **Truth** - Accepting and Filled with Love
Jer 3:12... "I will not look upon you in anger... I am unfailing in My love..." Zeph 3:17... "the Lord takes delight in you... with love, He will calm you..." Eph 1:6... "we are accepted in the Beloved..."

- f. **Lie** - Passive and Cold **Truth** - Warm and Affectionate
Isa 40:11... "carry His flock in His arms... holding close... gently leading..." Hosea 11:3-4... "I took care of him... led him with kindness and love..."
- g. **Lie** - Absent and Too Busy **Truth** - Always wants to be with me
Jer 31:20... "I still love him... that's why I long for him..." Eze 34:11-16... "I Myself will search for My sheep... I will rescue them... I will bring them back... I will feed them... I will tend my sheep... I will search for the lost and bring them home safely... I will bandage and strengthen the weak..." Heb 13:5... "I will never leave you or abandon you..."
- h. **Lie** - Impatient **Truth** - Patient
Exo 34:6... "I am a God of compassion and mercy... slow to anger..." Psa 86:15... "you, O Lord, are patient and demonstrate love and faithfulness..." Rom 9:22... "He is very patient with those on whom His anger falls..." 2Pet 3... "the Lord is patient for your sake... gives people time to be saved..."
- i. **Lie** - Mean, Cruel, Abusive **Truth** - Loving, Gentle, Protective
2Sam 22:36... "given me a shield... Your gentleness has made me great..." Psa 18:2... "He is my rock... in whom I find protection... my place of safety..." Isa 42:3... "He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle..."
- j. **Lie** - Takes Away Fun **Truth** - Brings Life Abundantly
John 10:10... "My purpose is to give you a rich and fulfilling life..." Rom 12:1-2... "God's will for you... is good and pleasing and perfect..." 3John 2... "I wish above all things... you prosper and be in good health..."
- k. **Lie** - Controlling / Manipulative **Truth** - Freedom
Josh 24:15... "choose for yourself this day whom you will worship..." Luke 15... "father agreed to divide his wealth... son wasted all his money..." John 7:17... "anyone who chooses to do the will of God..." 2Cor 3:17... "where the Spirit of the Lord is... there is freedom..." Gal 5:1... "Christ has liberated you into freedom... don't submit to slavery..." 1John 5:3... "His commands are not a burden..."
- l. **Lie** - Condemning / Unforgiving **Truth** - Forgiving
Psa 130:1-4... "with You there is forgiveness..." Rom 8:1... "no condemnation now exists for those who are in Christ..." Heb 8:12... "I will forgive... I will never again remember their sins..."
- m. **Lie** - Demanding Perfectionist **Truth** - Proud of Me / For Me
Psa 37:23... "though they stumble, they will never fall... the Lord holds them..." Psa 118:6... "the Lord is for me... I will not be afraid... what can man do..." Prov 24:16... "the righteous may stumble... but they will get up again..." Rom 8:31-39... "if God is for us... who can be against us..."
- n. don't let lies keep you away from your Dad any longer... come home... pray... Matt 7:9-11... "if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your kids... how much more will your Heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask..." Gal 4... "God sent HS into our hearts crying... *Abba*... not slave, but son..."

The everlasting God has become our Father. He is always caring for us. He loves us with an everlasting love. He sent His Son to die for our sins. He is our Father and the moment we realize it... it transforms everything. Marlyn Lloyd-Jones

God is Well Pleased with You

Eph 1:6... *God made us accepted in the Beloved...*

Studies have shown that in the heart of every child is a cry for his father's approval. Something happens when a father says to his boy, *Daddy is so proud of you*. Or when a father says to his girl, *you'll always be Daddy's favorite girl*.

You can catch such a similar moment in the Bible when God the Father displayed His approval of His Son... *this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased*. **Matt 3:17**. The Bible shows us that Jesus' ministry began with the approval of the Father... even before He had performed any miracles.

You may think that God would naturally say that of Jesus... but not of us. The truth is that Jesus came for us and as us. He died for us and as us. He received the approval of the Father for us and as us. He came as our representative. And if that is not enough... God tells us in His Word that we are *accepted in the Beloved*. **Eph 1:6**.

Why did God specifically say *accepted in the Beloved* and not simply *accepted in Christ*? He is calling to our remembrance what happened at the Jordan River where He said, *this is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased*. God wants us to know that we are His beloved and that He is fully pleased with us.

God see us as His beloved because He has made us accepted in the Beloved. He wants us to wake up every day knowing that we are His beloved... unconditionally loved and fully approved.

The more we know how much we are loved and treasured by God... the more we can expect good things to happen in our lives. We can expect to be healthy and whole. When we realize we are the objects of God's love... instead of becoming easily frightened and threatened by anything or anyone... we become confident that we will win every fight in life. We have the victory in Christ!!

That is how your heavenly Father wants you to live. So live life... today and every day... confident that you are God's beloved.

Pastor Joseph Prince

You are God's Beloved

Eph 1:6... *His grace... made us accepted in the Beloved...*

At the Jordan River... Jesus heard His Father say to Him... *You are My Beloved Son, I am fully pleased with you*. **Luke 3:22**. Later in the wilderness... Jesus heard the devil say to Him, *if You are the Son of God*. **Luke 4:3**.

Notice that the devil not only questioned Jesus' sonship... but he also dropped the word *beloved* when he said to Jesus... *if You are the Son of God*. The devil cannot remind you that you are God's beloved... because when you know that... whatever he wants to bring against you will not succeed.

Many girls are giving away their virginity because they need to feel wanted and loved. Young boys join gangs to feel accepted because they have been rejected and made to feel worthless.

When you know you are God's beloved... no temptation can succeed against you... not even the giants who may taunt you. Consider David who killed Goliath. *David* in Hebrew means *beloved*. It takes a David to knock down a giant. It takes someone who knows that he is God's beloved to win the battles of life.

You are God's beloved not because of what you do. Christ did everything. He is God's Beloved. But God put you in Christ. That is why you are accepted in the Beloved. What God said to Jesus, He says to you today... *You are My beloved, I am fully pleased*.

So, if the devil says... *you can't call yourself God's beloved after what you did...* be assured you are not God's beloved based on what you have done, but what **Christ has done**. No matter what you do... you are still God's beloved because you are in Christ!!

When you believe that... and say it out loud... the devil screams in frustration because he has no power over you when you are conscious of who you are. There is truly a place of safety when you know you are His beloved. You are not being prideful. After all, how can we boast when we know it is God's grace that has made us *accepted in the Beloved*. **Eph 1:6**.

Pastor Joseph Prince