

# Are you Happy?

By Paul Melton

When we think of happiness, we often picture some giddy, cheerful person that goes around laughing all the time. However, inward happiness is much more than external laughing, and joking. For example, a man told his psychiatrist, "Doctor, I am lonely, despondent, and miserable. Can you help me?" The psychiatrist suggested that he go to a famous clown who made the most miserable person laugh with gaiety. His patient said, "I am that clown." True happiness is inward peace, contentment, and security.

Some are searching for happiness in earthly possessions. A Texas millionaire once stated, "I thought money could buy happiness -- I have been miserably disillusioned." Others try to find happiness in popularity. A famous film star broke down and said, "I have money, beauty, glamour, and popularity. I should be the happiest person in the world, but I am miserable. Why?" One of Britain's top social leaders said, "I have lost the desire to live, yet I have everything to live for. What is the matter?" Do you feel this way?

The only way to become truly happy is by becoming a child of God. In Acts 8:38-39, a good religious man who had been traveling from Ethiopia to Jerusalem each year to worship God, found true happiness. After Philip preached Jesus to him, "both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, he went on his way rejoicing."

Also, a jailer found happiness by being baptized into Christ. Acts 16:33, 34 says, "And immediately he and all his family were baptized. . . and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household."

Both of these men were filled with joy because they were baptized and their sins were "washed away" (Acts 22:16). Would you like to be happy? Then, obey the Lord and have your sins washed away!