

Practical Religion / J.C. Ryle
Chapter 10
Happiness

What was the gist of the old woman's argument against atheism? Why was it a good argument? Would such an argument still work today?

I. What is essential to happiness:

Will we find pure happiness, meaning a complete freedom from all sorrow and discomfort on this earth?

Is smiling and laughter the essence of true happiness?

Even in laughter the heart may sorrow, and the end of mirth *may be* grief. (Proverbs 14:13 NKJ)

"On earth nothing is so deceptive as mere _____ and _____."

To be truly happy the highest wants of a man's nature must be met and satisfied, what are our principal wants?

_____ wants

_____ wants

To be truly happy a man must have sources of gladness which are not _____

"To be really happy a person must be able to look on every side without uncomfortable feelings" – what does this statement mean? What directions does Ryle suggest we might look?

II. Mistakes about happiness:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

What did each of these “witnesses” (or their lives) say about happiness?

Solomon – Ecclesiastes 1:14

Madam De Pompadour

Lord Byron

Sir Humphrey Davy

Lord Chesterfield

Are certain places, professions, privileged positions in life guarantees of happiness?

III. How to be really happy –

The way to be happy is to be a _____, _____ - _____, _____ - _____
Christian.

Why is a true Christian happy? Four reasons:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Is there happiness in this world without Christ?

What kind of happiness does Christ give?

Happiness in spite of: _____

Are you happy?

What if a person is not a true Christian is there any hope for happiness apart from Christ?

Where should we do to find happiness?

What can Christians do to increase happiness?

1. Grow in _____
2. Labor every year to be more _____
3. Labor every year to do more _____