



# Delighting In The Lord

# Which is better?

- ☐ To marry and love a spouse as a picture of loving the Lord
- ☐ To remain single and love the Lord



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The better choice is the way God has gifted, assigned and called YOU

(1 Cor 7:7, 17)

# **A picture of something greater**

**Intimacy in marriage points to “ecstasies that are unattainable and inconceivable in this life...[it] is telling the glory of immeasurable delights that we will have in Christ in the age to come”**

(John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage*, p. 128)



# PROVERBS 5:15-19 - MESSAGE

Delighting in the Lord glorifies Him  
and satisfies the thirsty soul

# **Both singleness and marriage glorify God and bring us delight in God**

Christian singleness enjoys the reality of what marriage pictures

Intimacy in marriage pictures delighting in the Lord

Delight in the Lord now and forever

# Undistracted devotion to the Lord

**God “calls you to display, by the Christ-exalting devotion of your singleness, the truths about Christ and his kingdom that shine more clearly through singleness than through marriage”**

(John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage*, p. 106)

## **4 Reasons why Christ and His kingdom shine more brightly through singleness**

- 1) God's family doesn't grow through biology but "by regeneration through faith in Christ"**
- 2) "relationships in Christ are more permanent and more precious"**
- 3) Christian singles live out what marriage is a picture of—relationship with Christ**
- 4) "faithfulness to Christ defines the value of life".**

(John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage*, p. 106)



# Spectacular blessings in singleness

**“God promises spectacular blessings to those of you who remain single in Christ, and he gives you an extraordinary calling for your life. To be single in Christ is, therefore...a path of Christ-exalting, covenant-keeping obedience that many are called to walk”**

(John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage*, pp. 106-7)

# Undistracted devotion

## Devotion

- 1 Cor 7:35
- Greek: “good” + “to sit beside”
- Thus, “constant presence”  
(Gordon Fee, *1 Corinthians*, p. 347)
- Mary’s good example sitting at the Lord’s feet in Lk 10:40



# Single vs Married



Single Believers



Married Believers

(Eph 5:10; 1 Cor 7:32-35)

# Connections– Prov 5:15-19

## **Love**

- Husband and wife (Prov 5:19; Song 2:4, 5, 7)
- Mutual love between the Lord and His people (Dt 7:8-9)

## **Drinking water**

- “Drinking” connects delighting in marriage to delighting in the Lord
- Cistern, well, springs, streams, fountain in Prov 5:15-19 = married love
- Drinking from God’s love and delighting in Him (John 7:37-39; Isa 12:3)

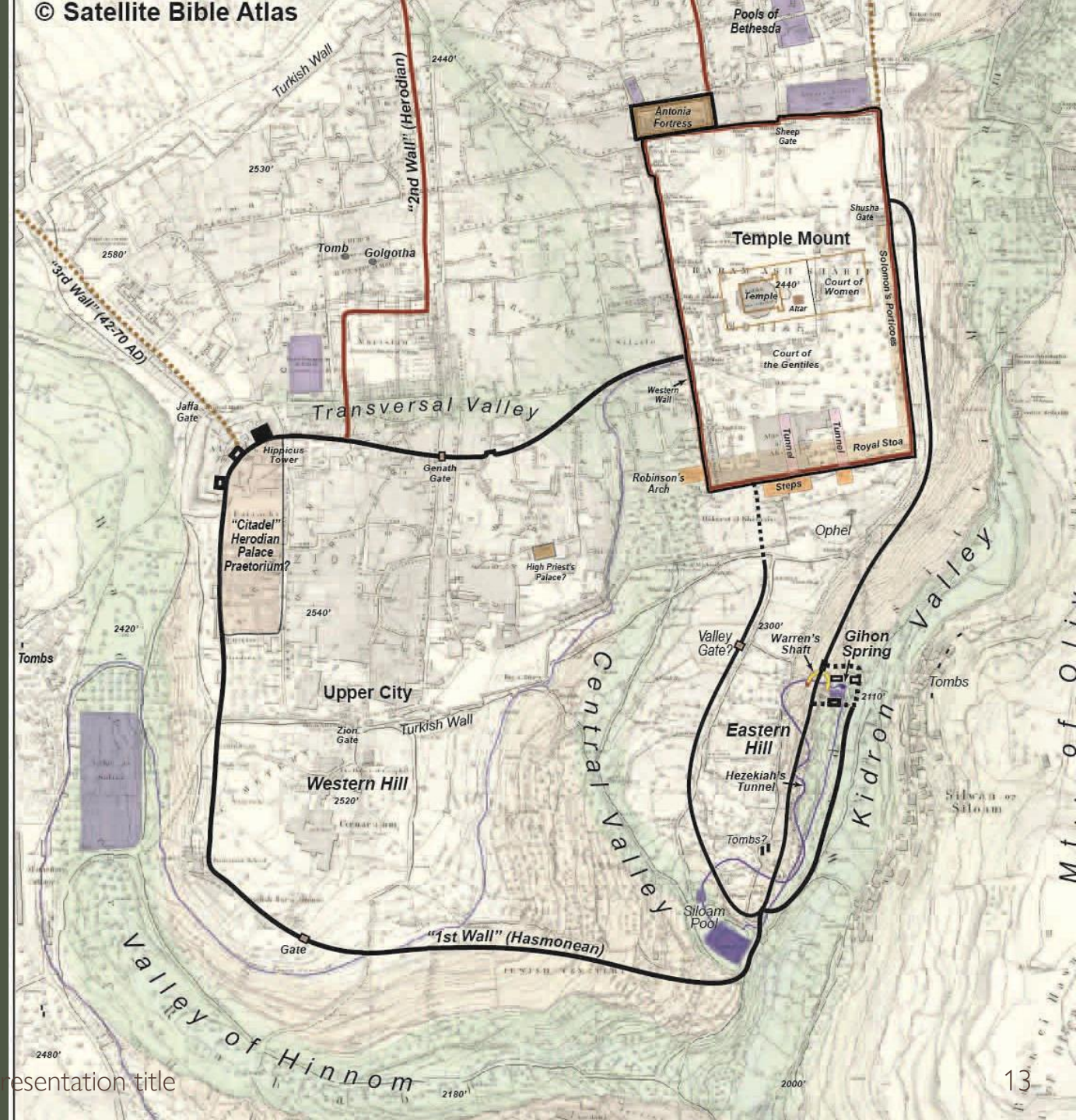




# Feast of Booths

Procession from the Temple Mount south to the Pool of Siloam, then back again

Jesus: *"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink"*  
(John 7:1-39)



# Drinking and delighting in God

Faith

**Delight in your personal faith in Jesus**

(Jn 7:37-38; Isa 12:3; 32:15; 44:3; 55:1; 58:11; Zech 13:1; 14:8; Ps 78:15-16; Ezek 36:26-27; 39:29; 47:1-11; Joel 2:28-32)

Holy Spirit

**Delight in Jesus providing the Spirit**

(Jn 7:39a; Jn 3; Isa 44:3; 32:15)

Cleansing  
from sin

**Delight in spiritual cleansing from sin**

(Zech 13:1; Ezek 36:25-27; Ezek 39:29; Joel 2:28-32)



# Taste and see (Ps 34:8)

## **Taste**

- To experiment with food
  - To actually try it
  - To experience its delight
  - Not a mere sampling (Kidner)
  - Becomes your primary staple
- 
- Ps 34:8 then means to intentionally experience God so that you discover that He is truly good



# *What is delighting in the Lord?*

God's  
goodness

**Experiencing God in the bounty of His goodness** (Ps 34:8)

Overflowing  
joy

**Overflowing joy**  
(Ps 16:11; Isa 12:3)

Deep  
satisfaction

**Deep Satisfaction**  
(Ps 36:8; 107:1, 9; Isa 55:1-2; 58:11; Ps 78:14-16; 1 Cor 10:4)