

46. Paul gives a crystal evaluation of the evil that sustains and underwrites these efforts in:

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit explicitly says that in the later times some will desert the faith and occupy themselves with deceiving spirits and demonic teachings,

v. 2 influenced by the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared.¹ (NET)

47. In opposition to this mind-set are those who subscribe to establishment viewpoint who include unbelievers and believers. We will identify this group as having:

II. Establishment Happiness

1. This category is made up of those who submit to the laws of divine establishment: Free will, marriage, family, and patriotism.
2. **Free will** identifies the volitional freedom of the individual and stresses the principle that each person is responsible for his own decisions.
3. The challenge of this category is whether or not the individual acquires the habit of controlling his free will on behalf of others and the society at large.
4. This character trait expands the moral mores of a society to include the honor and virtue of doing a right thing in a right way.
5. Morality is vulnerable to the trends of each individual's sin nature, but honor, virtue, and integrity include character traits that submit to a system of establishment principles that protect the freedom and tranquility of others and sustain the client nation.
6. The unbeliever can achieve establishment happiness in three ways. First he supports establishment principles that enable him to live his life in an environment of freedom.
7. In that environment, he may then achieve establishment happiness in two ways mentioned by Solomon in:

¹ "Seared," i.e., totally burnt and desensitized so that they are unable to notice the difference between right and wrong" (*The Net Bible* (Dallas: Biblical Studies Press, 1996–2005), 2322tn5sn(3).

Ecclesiastes 9:9 Enjoy life with your beloved wife during all the days of your fleeting life that God has given you on earth during all your fleeting days; for that is your reward in life and in your burdensome work on earth. (NET)

8. In arrogance, some Christians begrudge the temporal prosperity of unbelievers. But their talents and abilities are not limited by their failure to believe in Christ for salvation.
9. Every person has salvation available to him until the day he dies. In the meantime, he may use his volition to live his life under establishment happiness, or not.
10. Regardless of the fact he has no personal relationship with the Lord, he does possess free will and the opportunity to subscribe to establishment principles which include free enterprise.
11. An unbeliever who is competent in a given field of commerce cannot make progress in his efforts without the help of others. Therefore he hires employees, pays them salaries or wages plus benefits such as health insurance, retirement, and perks.
12. If the heathen employer is happily married, then he may also enjoy making money and in doing so he is functioning as the Lord's conduit for supplying logistics to many believers.
13. The environment by which the unbeliever and believer can achieve and enjoy establishment happiness is the divine organization of mankind into national entities.
14. The Lord has decreed that every ethnic group has the obligation to protect its borders from predator nations. This was established in Genesis chapters 10 and 11.
15. In chapter 10, the lines of Japheth, Ham, and Shem are distinguished as three ethnic groups. In chapter 11, they are disbursed to separate geographic locations, each with its own native language and national borders.
16. The principle establishes the development of neutral happiness is nationalism. Whether an advanced or aboriginal society, nationalism provides an environment of potential safety and freedom.

Psalm 144:11 Grab me and rescue me from the power of foreigners [aliens], who speak lies, and make false promises.

v. 12 Then [because of the preceding rescue, future prosperity for Israel is anticipated] our sons will be like plants, that quickly grow to strapping youths [depicts handsome gentlemen with great strength of soul and body]. Our daughters will be like corner pillars [of an altar], carved like those in a palace [use of delegated authority to keep the household in order].

v. 13 Our storehouses will be full, providing all kinds of food [characteristics of successful free enterprise in agriculture]. Our sheep will multiply by the thousands and fill our pastures [characteristics of successful free enterprise in animal husbandry].

v. 14 Our cattle will be weighted down with produce [system of transporting fruits and vegetables]. No one will breakthrough our walls, no one will be taken captive, and there will be no terrified cries in our city squares [strong military preparedness].

v. 15 How blessed [אֲשֶׁר ('ešer): “truly happy”] are the people who experience these things! How blessed are the people whose God is the Lord! (NET)

17. The word “blessed” in verse 15 is the noun אֲשֶׁר 'ešer (*esh*) and is best translated “truly happy.” The plural form is אֲשֶׁרִי ('ashre) and that is the form it takes in the following excerpt:

אֲשֶׁרִי English versions generally render 'ashre with either happy or blessed, the former sometimes limited to “secular” contexts while the latter functions more as a “spiritual” or “religious” term.

Nonetheless, because some modern readers tend to associate the word happy with a superficial, circumstance-based joy, while others think of blessed in exclusively spiritual terms, the most accurate rendering of 'ashre is probably “truly happy,” although for translation purposes, how happy, or simply happy, may be preferred.

In Psalms, truly happy is the one (or, nation) whose God is Yahweh [Psalm 144:15], who trusts Him and hopes in him, who knows him and worships in his temple, who fears and obeys him, who maintains justice and does what is right.²

² Michael L. Brown, “אֲשֶׁרִי,” in *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*, gen. ed. Willem A. VanGemeren (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997), 1:570, 571.

18. This principle is especially true for a client nation. Citizen unbelievers enjoy the neutral happiness of freedom to enjoy “certain unalienable Rights, that among them are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.”
19. Citizen believers not only enjoy those pursuits but also flourish under the freedoms and protections that are stated in Amendment I of the Constitution:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

20. The freedoms cited are central and necessary to the protection and security of believers to worship when and where they wish and in what manner or fashion. This is analyzed on the back cover of *Forty Proclamations*:

The foundation of all cultures is a central belief system that unites disparate individuals into a harmonious commonwealth. Although the United States is not a Christian nation, it was founded primarily by Christians who incorporated laws of divine establishment into the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. For Christians, the most sacred right contained in the First Amendment is that of free exercise. Ancillary to it are those freedoms that enable a person to grow in grace so he can become a good soldier for Christ. Freedom of movement facilitates assembly. Freedom of assembly permits church attendance. Freedom of speech allows public exposition of Scripture. Freedom of the press insures the publication and distribution of the Bible and its teachings.³

21. When a significant number of a client nation’s population rejects principles of divine establishment, then they form become a threat to the peace and safety of the rest.
22. When the laws of divine establishment fade from the mentality of a client nation’s population, then historical trends spiral downward toward anarchy.

Proverbs 29:18 When there is no establishment teaching, the people cast off restraint, but truly happy [**אִשֵּׁר** (*’ešer*)] is the one who maintains establishment viewpoint.
(EXT)

³ *Forty Proclamations: The Theology of Grace Doctrine Church* (St. Charles: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 2011), back cover.

23. A portion of a population that is not taught or personally rejects the laws of divine establishment have no happiness. Those that do submit to those laws acquire neutral or establishment happiness.
24. Neutral happiness contributes to the stability of a client nation, but unless there is a consistent advance to the realm of perfect happiness by believers, the client nation is put in danger.

III. Perfect or Unalloyed Happiness

1. This is the ninth problem-solving device and it consists of the biblical attributes that culminate in the stability of a mature believer.
2. Jesus Christ executed the prototype system of spiritual advance to maturity. This unique system of problem-solving devices culminated in Him sharing the happiness of God.
3. The night prior to His execution, the Lord indicated that the device of unalloyed happiness was prominent in His ability to fulfill the Father's plan for salvation:

John 15:10 If you obey My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commandments and remain in His love.

v. 11 I have told you these things so that My joy [χαρά (*chará*): **unalloyed happiness**] may be in you, and your joy may be complete. (NET)

4. The believer's source of acquiring and maintaining unalloyed happiness is consistent spiritual growth:

1 John 1:4 These things we write, so your joy [χαρά (*chará*): **unalloyed happiness**] may be made complete. (NASB)

5. In previous developments of unalloyed happiness we studied a passage in 1 Peter 1:7–8. Its development includes the process of enduring and overcoming testing for blessing by the use of problem-solving devices.