Man Displeased With God

Intro: When man disobeys God, then He becomes displeased with man. But sad to say, much too often man is displeased with God. This is a basic evil in our land.

I. NAAMAN

A. 2 Kings 5:1-14 “Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper. And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman’s wife. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy. And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me. And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean. But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.”

B. Naaman was a great and honorable man.

1. 2 Kin. 5:1 “Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper.

2. But good men have been displeased with God.

C. Naaman wanted to follow his own human opinion.

1. 2 Kin. 5:11 “But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.”

2. “Behold I thought.”

D. Naaman wanted to substitute what God had commanded; 2 Kin. 5:12 “Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.”

E. Many people are like Naaman, displeased with God, wanting to follow opinions and substitutes.

II. THE RICH YOUNG RULER

A. Mat. 19:16-22 “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be
perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. 22But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”

B. He was displeased with Jesus because he was no permitted to keep his idol.
1. The rich young ruler was covetous of his money.
2. Covetousness is idolatry; Col. 3:5 “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:”

C. He wanted riches first and salvation second.
1. Salvation must be first.
2. Mat. 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
3. Mat. 16:24 “Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”

D. He wanted to trust in riches first and the Lord second.
1. But trust in the Lord comes first.
2. Pro. 3:5 “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”
3. 1 Tim. 6:17 “Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;”

III. The Men Who Crucified Jesus
A. Mat. 27
B. They were so displeased with the life of Jesus that they took His life.
C. Some people today are so unhappy with Jesus that they crucify Jesus afresh.
1. Heb. 6:6 “If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”
2. Song: “Shall I Crucify My Savior.”

Shall I crucify my Savior, When for me He bore such lost? Shall I put to shame my Savior? Can I nail Him to the cross? Are temptations so alluring? Do earth’s pleasures so enthrall That I cannot love my Savior well enough to leave them all?
’Twas my sins that crucified Him: Shall they crucify Him yet? Blackest day of nameless anguish, can my thankless soul forget?
O the kindly hands of Jesus, Pouring blessings on all men, Bleeding, nail-scarred hands of Jesus! Can I nail them once again?

Chorus: Shall I crucify my Savior? Crucify my Lord again? Once, O once I crucified Him: Shall I crucify again?

IV. Many Special Groups Today Are Displeased With God.
A. Atheist.
1. They are displeased with the very thought of God.
2. Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”
3. Rom. 1:30 “Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,”

B. Modernist.
1. They are displeased with the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. 1 Cor. 2:13 “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”
3. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”
4. 2 Pet. 1:20-21 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

C. The Roman Catholic Church and Pentecostals.
1. They are displeased with the completeness of the Bible.
2. Jude 3 “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”
3. Rev. 22:18-19 “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”
4. Gal. 1:6-9 “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”
5. The Catholic Church wants the voice of the church (the pope) to be as authoritative as the Bible. This way they find consolation in having what they wish, even though it is not found in the Bible.
6. The Pentecostals also want their latter-day-revelations to be as authoritative as the Bible.

D. Protestant Denominations.
1. They are displeased with the Biblical teachings on unity.
   a. Eph. 4:3-6 “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”
   (1) One body.
   (2) One faith.
   (3) One baptism.

V. Some Other Examples.
A. Women who wish to take the lead.
1. Whether preacher, be an elder, deacon, or whatever.
2. They are displeased with the Bible’s instruction on the role of women.
   a. 1 Cor. 14:34-35 “Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”
   b. 1 Tim. 2:11-14 “Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

B. Those who vote on church membership for people.
1. “It is most likely that in the apostolic age when there was but ‘one Lord, one faith, and one baptism,’ and no differing denominations existed, the baptism of a convert by that very act constituted him a member of the church, and at once endowed him with all the rights and privileges of full membership. In that sense, ‘baptism was the door into the church.’ Now, it is different; and while the churches are desirous
of receiving members, they are wary and cautious that they do not receive unworthy persons. The churches therefore have candidates come before them, make their statements, give their ‘experience,’ and then their reception is decided by a vote of the members.” (Edward T. Hiscox, The Standard Manual For the Baptist Churches p. 22).

2. Were churches in the apostolic age not concerned with receiving “unworthy persons”?

3. Notice the statement: “Now, it is different.”
   a. Why is it different?
   b. By what authority is it different.
      (1) God’s Word does not change.
      (2) Mat. 24:35 “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

4. These are unhappy with:
   a. Acts 2:41, 47 “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls....47Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”
   b. 1 Cor. 12:13 “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

C. Those who practice infant baptism.
   1. They have a displeasure with:
      a. Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”
      b. Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
      c. Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins , and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
      d. These put teaching, faith, and repentance before baptism.
   2. They have a misunderstanding of an infant’s relation with God. They believe infants are born in sin. They are displeased with:
      a. Eze. 18:4, 20 “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die....20The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”
      b. Mat. 18:3 “And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”
      c. Mat. 19:14 “But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

D. Those who take up collections, offerings, every time they meet.
   1. They are displeased with God’s command.
   2. 1 Cor. 16:1-2 “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”
   3. Many members of the church are displeased with this command for they do not want to give at all.
E. **Martin Luther was displeased with God.**

1. **Rom. 5:1** “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
   a. He was so displeased he added *only* between the line.
   b. He wishing did not make it so.

2. He plainly contradicted the Bible
   a. **Jam. 2:24** “Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.”
   b. So he called James: “an epistle of straw.”

F. **In the second century man became displeased with God’s government for the church.**

1. God’s command was for a plurality of elders or bishops in each church (congregation).
   a. **Acts 14:23** “And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.”
   b. **Acts 20:17, 28** “And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church...28Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

2. They became so displeased with this that they began having one bishop in one church.
   a. This system of episcopacy and papacy continued and developed.
   b. Finally in 606, Boniface III declared that he was the universal pope.

3. We have some in the church who are displeased with God’s arrangement.
   a. Alvin Jennings book: *How Christianity Grows in the City* has advocated one eldership over many churches (house-churches).
   b. The Boston (Crossroads) church has implemented this system in their church and their satellite churches.
   c. They are displeased that there is to be one eldership (plurality of men) over one church; **Acts 14:23** “And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.”

G. **Some are displeased by being guided by what the Bible says.**

1. **2 Tim. 3:16-17** “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

2. Rather they wish to be guided by what it does not say.

3. Thus, they say, “The Bible does not say not to do such and such.”

VI. **GOD KNEW THAT SOME PEOPLE WOULD BECOME SO DISPLEASED WITH THE DIVINE ORDER THAT THEY WOULD WISH TO CHANGE IT.**

A. **God commanded man not to change His Word.**

1. **Deu. 4:2** “Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.”

2. **Gal. 1:6-9** “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”

3. **Rev. 22:18-19** “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take
away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

B. **We are to pray that God’s will be done.**
1. **Mat. 6:10** “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”
2. **Mat. 26:39** “And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”