

# Ezekiel 18:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

## Analysis

---

God declares: 'For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.' This verse reveals God's heart—He takes no delight in judgment but earnestly desires repentance and life. The Hebrew 'lo echpotz' (לֹא אֶחְפֹּץ, 'I have no pleasure') strongly denies that God is vindictive or eager to punish. The death mentioned is both physical (exile's hardships) and spiritual (eternal separation from God). The imperative 'turn yourselves' (shuvu, שׁוּבוּ—literally 'return' or 'repent') places responsibility on the people to respond to God's grace. The command 'live' (vichiyu, וַיְחִי) promises life as the outcome of repentance. This verse encapsulates the gospel: God doesn't desire anyone to perish but wants all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). It refutes both the notion that God arbitrarily predestines people to destruction and the idea that He's indifferent to human choices.

## Historical Context

---

Throughout Ezekiel's ministry, he proclaimed both judgment and hope. Chapter 18's emphasis on individual responsibility and divine desire for repentance addressed the exiles' despair and fatalism. Many had concluded that their situation was hopeless—if they were suffering for their fathers' sins, what could they do? God answers: repent personally and live! Even in exile, even with judgment falling on Jerusalem, individuals could still turn to God and experience spiritual life. This message kept hope alive during the darkest period of Israel's history. It also

prepared for the fuller revelation of new covenant grace, where God would not only call for repentance but provide the Spirit to enable it (Ezekiel 36:26-27).

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

---

1. How does knowing God takes no pleasure in judgment but desires your life affect how you view Him?
2. What areas of life is God calling you to 'turn' from in order to truly live?

## Interlinear Text

---

לֹא	אֶחָפֶץ	בְּמוֹת	הַמֵּיִת	נֹאֵם
H3588	H3808			
	For I have no pleasure	in the death	of him that dieth	saith
	H2654	H4194	H4191	H5002
יְהוָה	יְהוָה	וְהָשׁוּ	וְחָיִוּ	
the Lord	GOD	wherefore turn	yourselves and live	
H136	H3069	H7725	H2421	

## Additional Cross-References

---

**2 Peter 3:9** (References Lord): The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

**Ezekiel 18:23** (References God): Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

**Ezekiel 33:11** (References God): Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way

and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

**Lamentations 3:33** (Parallel theme): For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)