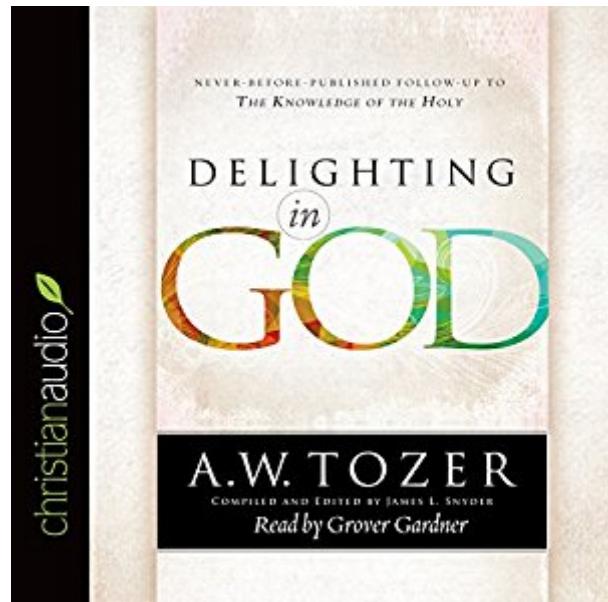


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# Delighting In God



## Synopsis

A. W. Tozer's Follow-up to *The Knowledge of the Holy* We were created in the image of God, and to understand who we are, we need to understand who God is. His very character and nature are reflected through us. Unless we fully grasp who we are, we'll never become all God wants us to be. Delighting in God is the message Tozer intended to be the follow-up to *The Knowledge of the Holy*. He demonstrates how the attributes of God - those things God has revealed about himself - are a way to understand the Christian life of worship and service. We are here to serve and adore him, but we can fulfill that role only by acknowledging who he is, which is the essence of the Christian life and the source of all our fulfillment, joy, and comfort.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 5 hours and 11 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: christianaudio.com

Audible.com Release Date: November 24, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B018ELBH6C

Best Sellers Rank: #320 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Sermons  
#1852 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Religion & Spirituality > Christianity #5495 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Spiritual Growth

## Customer Reviews

This latest posthumous A.W. Tozer book is being billed as the originally planned follow-up to his classic *The Knowledge of the Holy*, and after reading it I see no reason to not treat it that way. In fact, I'm adding it to my re-reads list so that I can read the two together in the future. In this book, Tozer moves from focusing on God's attributes to its practical ramifications here on earth: "the most obvious being that such a God should be the focus on all our worship, rather than being secondary to the worship experience or church-as-entertainment. With that comes the lack of reverence; as Tozer so witheringly puts it, "We do not fear God anymore. We do not dread Him anymore. He is our buddy and only wants to help us be the best kind of people we can be." As editor James Snyder points out in the intro, "Even in his day, Tozer complained about

the mediocrity of the Christian church. He complained about how worship had fallen to such a low, despicable level. I wonder what he would say today? •We certainly have some idea from what Tozer writes here. There are places where he veers into attacks on what passed for Christianity even 50 years ago (and again, is even more applicable today), but he's at his best when he's looking upward and calling us to do the same: "What is needed today is passion, but more defined, a passion for God, a deep desire to know God as He desires to be known." •Inherent in many of the problems the church faces today, Tozer reminds us, is our presumption that "We assume that if it is in the Bible, it is in us" | but we cannot assume that|. We must come to the point of personally experiencing everything that the Bible is teaching us.

This wasn't the first A.W. Tozer book I've ever read, nor will it be my last. That said, what happened here? This book not only isn't great (as most Tozer books are) it's badly flawed. For the start, where's the Bible? This book is full of quotes from Christian leaders throughout history and lines from hymns but there's next to no Bible. From my experience this isn't very Tozer! Next the book has some serious theological flaws - such as Tozer's claim that John 3:16 (For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life) affirms a potentially universal atonement rather than the limited atonement that the Bible so clearly teaches. Yes, Tozer denounces Universalism prior to teaching this but I still found this EXTREMELY troubling. Finally, this book rambles, meanders, wanders, and stumbles around rather than stays tightly focused on a central theme or concept. I did the audiobook edition and I agree with the other review who said that this book was very hard to get into and stay focused on. In the end I found myself listening out of loyalty to Tozer in the hope that it was going to get better soon (I mean come on, this is A.W. Tozer here!) - but it never did. By the tail end of the book I felt like I'd just sat through a long, boring, session with a cynical, burned out, curmudgeon than sat at the feet of a learned, and wise Christian leader dispensing sage wisdom borne out of hard experience. I heard a lot of A.W. Tozer's opinion, but very little of what I would call God's mind let alone His glory or His delight. This too isn't the Tozer that I've encountered in other books.

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