

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT IN WORD, BUT IN POWER.

1st Corinthians 4:20



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Joy, how do we get it or do we already have it?

Introduction:

Joy is a good thing and all of us want joy, however we must first realize that our joy comes from within, it does not come from external circumstances. People of this world and certain situations may be able to rob you of your happiness but you are the only person that can rob you of your joy. Joy is an inner quality, if we are searching for our joy through what circumstances can give us, it is no wonder that we feel we have no joy. Solomon, in **Ecclesiastics 5:17**, wrote from a human perspective, that in life there is much sorrow, and likewise this is also said in **Psalms 38:17**. Most of us try to gauge our joy level through our feelings, which are driven by our senses and emotions, assuming that if we don't feel it, it must not be. This is 100% carnal, (meaning of the natural human logic and reasoning), and will give us a false reading, for our flesh cannot comprehend our spirit.

Understanding what joy is:

The dictionaries define joy as; “experiencing great pleasure or delight, an emotion of great happiness or well-being, success or having good fortune through the possessing of things desired”. These definition are totally carnal, (of the 5-senses), and are totally wrong. Joy should not be combined and confused with an emotion of happiness resulting out of one's success, good fortune, through achieving earthly desires.

Believing in God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son is the only way to find true joy, for joy is a spiritual quality, for it is a fruit of the Spirit, **Galatians 5:22**. If we are driven by our 5-senses and our emotions, we will confuse happiness or fulfilling certain lustful desires with thinking we have joy. Joy comes from within not from external things, every believer has the capability to have joy. Just as a fruit tree naturally bears fruit for that is the type of tree it is, as a believer if we truly abide in Christ, we will also naturally bear the fruit of the Spirit, (love, peace, joy, etc). It is simple, yet to do this takes determination, perseverance and a proper understanding and expectation of God's Word, allowing His Word to become your personal life's philosophy. As the scripture says; “seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you”, **Matthew 6:33**. If we truly seek His kingdom first, we will have no need or desire to seek the things of this earthy natural kingdom. For the world will never

provide you with joy, for it is incapable of doing so, for joy can only be found within knowing Christ Jesus and believing in His inheritance and the many promises that we find in God's Word.

Avenues to finding our joy:

Scriptures concerning Joy:

I have put a few scriptures below, if we believe the scriptures to be true, "let God be true and every man a liar, **Romans 3:4**. The scriptures tell us that we should rejoice, for in Him is our joy made complete, so let us then rejoice having all faith that God's Word is true.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you, Matthew 5:12.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man has found, he hides, and for **joy** thereof goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field, **Matthew 13:44**.

Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather **rejoice**, because your names are **written in heaven**, **Luke 10:20**.

Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come *again* unto you. If ye loved Me, ye would **rejoice**, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I, **John 14:28**.

These things have I spoken unto you, that My **joy** might remain in you, and *that* your joy might be full, **John 15:7**.

And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall **rejoice**, and your **joy** no man takes from you, **John 16:22**.

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your **joy** may be full, **John 16:24**.

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have My **joy** fulfilled in themselves, **John 17:13**.

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and **rejoice** in hope of the glory of God, **Romans 5:2**.

And not only *so*, but we also **joy** in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement, **Romans 5:11**.

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost, [Romans 14:17](#).

And again He said, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with His people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud Him, all ye people, [Romans 15:10-11](#).

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost, [Romans 15:13](#).

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [Galatians 5:22](#).

For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, [Philippians 3:3](#).

Rejoice in the Lord always: *and* again I say, Rejoice, [Philippians 4:4](#).

And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost; [1st Thessalonians 1:6](#).

For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? [1st Thessalonians 2:19](#).

Rejoice evermore, [1st Thessalonians 5:16](#).

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God, [Hebrews 12:2](#).

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith works patience, [James 1:2-3](#).

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *Him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: [1st Peter 1:8](#).

But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy, [1st Peter 4:13](#).

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full, [1st John 1:4](#).

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all *ye that are* upright in heart, [Psalm 32:11](#).

And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in His salvation, [Psalm 35:9](#).

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favor My righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which has pleasure in the prosperity of his servant,

Psalm 35:27.

Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, *is* mount Zion, *on* the sides of the north, the city of the great King, Psalm 48:2.

My soul shall be satisfied as *with* marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise *thee* with joyful lips, Psalm 63:5.