

Joy to the World! (Pt. 2)

Selected Scripture

I. The Ultimate Source of Joy

A. The Person of God

1. The Unchanging Perfection of His Nature

- a. The Joy of the Father (1 Ch. 16:27; Pr. 8:30-31)
- b. The Joy of the Son (Mt. 25:21; Lk. 10:21; Acts 2:15-31; Heb. 1:8-9; 2:13; 12:2)
- c. The Joy of the Spirit (1 Th. 1:6; Gal. 5:22)

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Selected Scripture

I. The Ultimate Source of Joy

A. The Person of God

1. The Unchanging Perfection of His Nature
2. The Unchanging Reflection of His Purpose
 - a. In His Own Character (Jer. 9:24; Micah 7:18)
 - b. In His Son (Is. 42:1; Mt. 3:17; 12:18; 17:5)
 - c. In His Creation (Gen. 1:31; Ps. 104:31)
 - d. In His People (Ps. 147:10-11; 149:4; Is. 62:4-5; Zeph. 3:17)
 - e. In Repentant Sinners (Ezek. 33:11; Lk. 15:7, 10, 22-24, 32)
 - f. In Loving Him and Obeying His Word (1 Sam. 15:22; Mk. 12:33-34)

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Selected Scripture

I. The Ultimate Source of Joy

A. The Person of God

B. The Incarnation of His Son (Is. 9:2-3; Lk. 1:44, 47; 2:20, 28ff; Mt. 2:10; Lk. 2:8-11)

II. The Believer's Life of Joy

A. The Certainty of a Believer's Joy

1. The true believer's joy begins in the gospel.

a. Believing in the gospel (Mt. 13:44-46; Lk. 2:10-11; 1 Th. 1:6)

b. Having assurance in the gospel (Lk. 10:17, 20)

2. The true believer's joy will continue throughout this life.

a. Because it's the characteristic of believers (Acts 2:46; 13:52; Rom. 14:17)

b. Because it's the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22)

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II. The Believer's Life of Joy

A. The Certainty of a Believer's Joy

B. The Categories of a Believer's Joy

1. The blessings of this life (2 Ch. 7:10; Acts 14:17)
2. Our Christian relationships (Phil. 4:1; 2 Th. 2:19)
3. The spiritual prosperity of others

3. The Spiritual Prosperity of Others

- Their faith in Christ (Jn. 4:36; Acts 15:3)
- Their obedience to Christ (Rom. 16:19; 3 Jn. 4)
- Their stability of the faith (Col. 2:5)
- Their repentance from sin (2 Cor. 7:9)
- Their unity with other believers (Phil. 2:2)

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II. The Believer's Life of Joy

A. The Certainty of a Believer's Joy

B. The Categories of a Believer's Joy

1. The blessings of this life (2 Ch. 7:10; Acts 14:17)
2. Our Christian relationships (Phil. 4:1; 2 Th. 2:19)
3. The spiritual prosperity of others
4. Our daily work (Pr. 8:30-31; Eccl. 2:24-25)
5. All the circumstances of this life (Dt. 12:18; Phil. 4:4; 1 Th. 5:16)
6. All our difficulties & trials (Rom. 5:3; Jam. 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:6)

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II. The Believer's Life of Joy

A. The Certainty of a Believer's Joy

B. The Categories of a Believer's Joy

C. The Cause of a Believer's Joy

1. Our joy is found in God.

a. In His Person (Ps. 43:4; 149:2)

b. In His Character (Ps. 33:1-4; 90:14)

c. In His Word (Ps. 119:111, 162)

2. Our joy is a gift of God (Neh. 12:43; Ps. 4:7; 21:6; Rom. 15:13).

3. Our joy is Christ's own joy (Jn. 15:11; 17:13).

4. Christ's joy becomes ours through the work of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 14:17; Gal. 5:22; 1 Th. 1:6).

5. Christ's joy becomes ours by believing God's Word (Rom. 15:13).