

Title: Joy
Pastor: Danie Pretorius
Date: 14 September 2008
Time: 17h30



1. The Holy Spirit causes and inspires joy.

I Thessalonians 1:6-7

⁶ And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

Romans 14:17

¹⁷ for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Where the Holy Spirit is at work, there is an abundance of joy.

Acts 8:4-8

⁴ Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. ⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 10:44-46

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

2. Constantly be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:10, 17-20

¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

3. Joy is a spiritual sacrifice.

Hebrews 13:15

¹⁵ Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

4. **Chara – literal translations:**

Cheerfulness; gladness; exceeding joy, rejoicing, full of fullness of joy.

a) **Our joy is a state or continuous consciousness of our state as being in Christ Jesus, seated with Him at the right hand of God in the heavenly places:**

Philippians 4:1

¹ Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

II Corinthians 7:4

⁴ Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation.

Matthew 25:21

²¹ His lord said to him, 'Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

b) ...My joy be in you, that your joy may be full.

John 3:29

²⁹ He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled.

John 15:10-11

¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

John 16:19-24

¹⁹ Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, "Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'?" ²⁰ Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. ²¹ A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. ²³ And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

I John 1:1-4

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life — ² the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us — ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

John R. Stott interprets as follows:

"...Jesus endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him, and part of that joy lay in the knowledge that his disciples, in obeying His commands, would find in their (our) obedience the fullness of their (our) own joy!"

5. Other variations of biblical joy

(i) *Kauchaomai*

Boasting with great rejoicing.

Romans 5:11

¹¹ And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

(ii) *Oninemi*

To derive pleasure from rejoicing.

Philemon 7, 20

⁷ For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord.

- (iii) **Agalliao**
To jump for joy.

I Peter 4:13-14

¹³ but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. ¹⁴ If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

- (iv) **Agalliasis**
Celebrating spiritual maturity of a Christian.

Jude 24

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

- (v) **Old Testament**

- **Simchah:**
Gleeful, joyful, gladness, fullness of joy and pleasure, extraordinary atmosphere of festivity and celebration.

Nehemiah 12:43

⁴³ Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and the children also rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard afar off.

- **Rinnah:**
Proclamation of joy

Psalms 35:27

²⁷ Let them shout for joy and be glad, Who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."

- **Chedvah**
Divine joy empowers & strengthens the spirit of man.

Nehemiah 8:10

¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for *this day is holy* to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Finally:

- Do you understand the concept of biblical joy?
- Where it comes from?
- Its effect on us on a physical, emotional, spiritual level
- Do we understand our freedom of expression?
- Do you have and walk in the joy of the Lord?
- Is your joy full?
- Is it a way of life?