

Choose Joy!

Habakkuk 3:17-19 (ESV) Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.

I. Where does Joy come from?

John 14:16-17 (NKJV) And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth,

John 14:26-27 (NKJV) But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Joy May be Full!

John 15:11 (NKJV) “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

John 15:26 (NKJV) “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16:7 (NKJV) Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

John 16:13 (NKJV) However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

We will Rejoice!

John 16:22 (NKJV) 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.

John 16:24 (NKJV) Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

Jesus is Praying

John 17:13 (NKJV) But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, **that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.**

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things, there is no law.

Fruit: g2590. καρπός karpos; probably from the base of 726; fruit (as plucked), literally or figuratively: Fruit the fruit of the trees, vines, of the fields the fruit of one's loins, i.e. his progeny, his posterity that which originates or comes from something, an effect, result

II. We must Choose!

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things, there is no law.

Love is a choice, Peace is a choice, kindness, goodness, faithfulness... these are all choices! **JOY IS A CHOICE!**

Philippians 4:4 (NASB 2020) Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Rejoice: to feel joy or great delight.

Philippians 4:4 (NLT) Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!

Philippians 4:4 (AMP) Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, gladden yourselves in Him]; again I say, Rejoice!

Psalms 37:4 (NASB 2020) Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

Galatians 6:9 (NASB 2020) Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, **if we do not become weary.**

Rejoicing in the Lord is a Choice!

Never let the Enemy see you sweat!

Psalms 42:4-5 (NKJV) When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast. Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.

Psalms 103:2 (NKJV) Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:

Back to the book of John...

John 16:33 (NASB 2020) These things I have spoken to you so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Psalms 35:27-28 (NASB 2020) May those shout for joy and rejoice, who take delight in my vindication; And may they say continually, "The LORD be exalted, Who delights in the prosperity of His servant." And my tongue shall proclaim Your righteousness And Your praise all day long.