

JOY TO THE WORLD



Luke 2:10-14 New King James Version

10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of **great joy** which will be to all people...

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

14

“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth **peace, goodwill** toward men!”

Goodwill —

(“well-pleased”); equivalent to good + will.

John 3:16 New International Version

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Peter 3:9-10 New International Version

9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.

Peace

JOY TO THE WORLD



Isaiah 9:6 King James Version

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace.**

John 14:27

New International Version

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and **do not be afraid.**

Philippians 4:4-7 New King James Version

4 **Rejoice in the Lord always.** Again I will say, **rejoice!**

5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 **Be anxious for nothing,** but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the **peace of God,** which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Joy

JOY TO THE WORLD



Romans 15:13 English Standard Version

13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Galatians 5:22-23 English Standard Version

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

James 1:17 New International Version

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

John 8:12 New International Version

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said,
“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.”

JOY TO THE WORLD



THE JOY OF THE LORD IS BETTER THAN THE PLEASURES OF SIN

A Russian countess accepted the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and was open about her testimony. The Tsar was displeased and threw her into prison. After 24 hours with the lowest level of Russian society, in the most miserable conditions imaginable, he ordered her brought into his presence. He smiled sardonically and said, “Well, are you ready now to renounce your silly faith and come back to the pleasures of the court?”

To his surprise, the countess smiled serenely and said, “I have known more real joy and more real happiness in one day in prison with Jesus than I have known in a lifetime in the courts of the Tsar.” She found out what was really the easy way.

THE WEAPON OF JOY

Massena, one of Napoleon's generals, suddenly appeared with eighteen thousand men before an Austrian town which had no means of defense. The town council had nearly decided to surrender when the old dean of the church reminded them that it was Easter and begged them to hold services as usual and to leave the trouble in God's hands. This they did; and the French hearing the church bells ringing joyfully concluded that an Austrian army had come to relieve the place and quickly broke camp. Before the bells ceased ringing, all the Frenchmen had vanished.

GIVING CHEERFULLY

A mother gave her little girl a quarter and a dollar before church, “Put whichever one you want in the collection plate and keep the other for yourself,” she told the girl. When they were coming out of church, the mother asked her daughter which amount she had given. “Well,” said the little girl, “I was going to give the dollar, but just before the collection the man in the pulpit said that we should all be cheerful givers. I knew I’d be a lot more cheerful if I gave the quarter, so I did.”

Goodwill

(“well-pleased”); equivalent to good + will.