



SEASONS

Seasons Series

Part 6

October 30, 2022

Seasons of Joy being Restored!

2 Corinthians 11:28-29, “²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹ Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?”

1 Peter 5:1-4, “So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.”

1. We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter how Hard a Season may be, our Joy will be Made to be Full in Due Time!

- a. The Gospel of Saint John 16:21-24, “²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. ²³ In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”

- b. It is very interesting that Jesus ties our Joy being made Full to us asking and receiving through Faith!
- c. Church, it is the heart of God that our Joy be made full! But far too often we let the seasons of our lives zap our joy because we build our joy on our emotional state.
- d. Just as Jesus spoke to His disciples and told them that His Peace He was leaving with them; but Christ leaves us more than just His Peace. It is the desire of Christ Jesus for our Joy to be full!
- e. In chapter 16, Jesus says that we shall ask, and we will receive that our joy may be full. Isn't it interesting how His Joy becomes our own through Prayer; Praying to the Father in Jesus Name and abiding under the directives of Christ's commandments!
- f. Remember, We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter how Hard a Season may be, our Joy will be Made to be Full in Due Time! Point #2...

2. We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter how Hard a Season may be, a Day of Rejoicing is Coming!

- a. It is easy for any one of us to become trapped in the "Forrest for the Trees" view point of life; it is hard to see the end of the tunnel when we are stuck looking down in the middle of the tunnel.

- b. But, thankfully, we can rejoice that no matter our current plight; a Day of Rejoicing is Coming!
- c. Isaiah 61:1-3, “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.”
- d. This Scripture has always fascinated me because this is a Messianic text of which Christ Himself read but He stopped at half way through these verses but notice that the first verse is speaking to His ministry.
- e. The impact of said ministry would lead to the remaining of verse two speaking to how His Ministry would change our lives individually and corporately! Comfort those who mourn!

- f. The giving of beautiful headdresses to those who mourn instead of ashes, the giving of the oil of gladness for mourning and a garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; and all of this is done for the sake of glorifying God!
- g. And today I declare praise and gladness and restoration over you in Jesus name!
- h. Remember, We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter how Hard a Season may be, a Day of Rejoicing is Coming!
- i. In closing, Point #3...

3. We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter how Hard a Season may be, He is a Restorer of the Seed that We have Sown!

- a. We can trust that the seeds we have sown will bring forth a harvest in their time!
- b. Psalm 126:1-6, “When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. ²Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” ³The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad. ⁴Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negeb! ⁵Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! ⁶He who goes out weeping,

bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.”

- c. The Seasons of Tears are about to be replaced with a Harvest of Joy in Jesus Name! I declare that over all of us today! The Seasons of Tears are about to be replaced with a Harvest of Joy!
- d. And for those who have gone out bearing precious seed, we shall return again with shouts of joy bring a harvest; that which was sown in tears will be harvested with Rejoicing!
- e. Remember, We can Rest in the Assurance that No Matter the Seasons, We can Rejoice in the Promise that He is a Restorer of the Seed that We have Sown! Please stand so that I bless you today!
- f. The Book of Job 22:28 states that we shall decree a thing and it shall be established. In light of this text, I want to prophetically decree some things over this house and over every family as your Pastor and Shepherd by faith that the Lord is about to release a restoration of Joy to our hearts collectively as a church body.
- g. I decree that our hearts will be healed, our homes restored, our marriages mended, our finances blessed, and our children will walk in the ways of Christ.

- h. I decree and declare that all of our needs as a church and as a collectiveness of families will be met spiritually, physically, and financially.
- i. I decree and declare a release of finances into our lives and into this church for us to accomplish the mission and vision that you have given us!
- j. I decree and declare that goodness and mercy will pursue us and overtake our lives for your glory and not our own! I declare Joy and Peace to be released into this church body in Jesus Name!