

# Christmas Foretold: Sing, Shout Rejoice

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 12/22/2019



## I. Christmas Joy

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## II. The Messiah is Worthy

Zephaniah 3:14-20

v. 14-17

Joyful Song

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v. 18-20

Promised Restoration

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## III. Celebration

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## IV. Lasting Joy

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### *Personal Reflection (Mid-Week Devotion)*

*Take time this week to pray & reflect on the following:*

*Celebration, praise and rejoicing are too often wasted on unworthy targets and endeavors. The short-sightedness of human nature leads many into idolatry because they wrongly interpret temporary causes for happiness as possible sources of lasting joy. Far too often, the foolishness of this behavior is only realized after significant heartache and the passing of much wasted time.*

*When Jesus Christ came into the world, He brought legitimate and lasting cause for rejoicing. The Messiah brings joy to the world. The joy He brings triumphs over fear and it overcomes mourning and shame.*

*When was the last time that the hope, peace, love and joy of the Lord so flooded your spirit that it moved you to sing, shout and rejoice in His glory? Do you withhold your most impassioned expressions of rejoicing from Him while celebrating the fleeting and limited moments of life? Could it be that you need the Holy Spirit to reorient your thinking with respect to what is and is not worthy of rejoicing?*

*Prayerfully ask God to help you better comprehend the countless reasons you have to rejoice in Him. Ask Him to put songs of praise in your heart this Christmas. Invite God to change your heart, change your mind and even change your plans so that He can have His rightful place at the center of your celebration and thanksgiving this Christmas and throughout the coming year.*