

Sermon Notes

Brooksville Church of Christ • Brooksville, Florida
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Awakening Joy

Text: John 15:10-11

Introduction

1. As the people of God, we should be joyful. (Phil. 3:1; 4:4; 1 Thess. 5:6)
2. God has promised joy to His people. (Eccl. 2:26)
3. This lesson will focus on the joy that is to be ours as Christians so that we might awaken ourselves to it in order to derive the full measure of joy the Lord offers us.

I. The Joy of the Wicked Contrasted to the Joy of the Righteous

- A. The joy of the wicked.
 1. It is derived from foolish things. (Prov. 15:21)
 2. It is short-lived. (Job 20:4-5; Heb. 11:24-26)
 3. It will be turned into mourning. (Jas. 4:8-9)
- B. The joy of the righteous.
 1. It is inexpressible and full of glory. (1 Pet. 1:8-9)
 2. It is increased in the meek and lowly. (Isa. 29:19)
 3. It is constant—not short-lived. (Phil. 4:4)
 4. It is not diminished by trials, persecutions or hardships. (Matt. 5:11-12; Jas. 1:2)
 5. It is made full by abiding in Christ, the love we have for fellow Christians and children who walk in truth. (John 15:10-11; 2 Tim. 1:3-4; Phil. 4:1; 3 John 4; Prov. 23:24)

II. Reasons for Rejoicing

- A. Temporal blessings. (Joel 2:23-24)
- B. Our names written in heaven. (Luke 10:20)
- C. Salvation. (Psa. 21:1; 1 Pet. 1:3-6)
- D. The hope of glory. (Rom. 5:1-2)
- E. The success of the gospel. (Acts 15:3)

III. Sources of Joy

- A. God gives joy. (Eccl. 2:26; Psa. 4:7-8; Rom. 5:11)
- B. Jesus gives joy which allows us to rejoice in the Lord. (Isa. 61:3; Luke 2:10-11; Phil. 3:3)
- C. Joy is to be found in the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 14:17; Gal. 5:22-23)

- D. The word of God gives us joy. (Jer. 15:16)
- E. The benefits of prayer bring joy. (John 16:24)

IV. Exhortations to Rejoice and Be Joyful

- A. Let the righteous rejoice. (Psa. 68:3; 32:11)
- B. Rejoice and be happy for we have received manifold spiritual blessings. (Isa. 61:10)
- C. Serve God with gladness. (Psa. 100:2-5)
- D. Engage in all worship services with rejoicing. (Ezra 6:22)
- E. Rejoice in all our undertakings. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
- F. Express our joy, especially in song. (Jas. 5:13)
- G. Promote joy in other people. (2 Cor. 1:24; Phil. 1:25)
- H. Pray for joy in others. (Rom. 15:13)

Conclusion: The Great Eternal Joy

1. Saints will be presented to God with exceeding joy. (1 Pet. 4:12-13; Jude 24)
2. Entering the joy of the Lord will be the reward of saints at the judgment day. (Matt. 25:21)
3. Heaven is pictured as a marvelous place of happiness and joy. (Psa. 16:11; Rev. 21:4)
4. Following the example of the apostle Paul, through faithfulness, we can finish our course on earth with joy. (Acts 20:24)