

JOY

5

PRINCIPLES

- joy co-exists with other emotions such as fear ("with fear and great joy," Mt 28:8)
- joy accompanies the filling of the Spirit (Acts 13:52; Rom 14:17)
 - you may be continually filled with joy (Acts 13:52)—imperfect tense of *pleroo* describes a prolonged joy
 - joy may be present in times of testing and suffering (2 Cor 7:4; 8:2; James 1:2), e.g., the seizure of your property (Heb 10:34)
 - joy results in praising God (Lk 24:52–53)

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DEGREES OF JOY

- "much joy" (Acts 8:8; Phm 7),
 - "great joy" (Mt 2:10; 28:8; Lk 24:52; Acts 15:3),
 - "abundance of joy" (2 Cor 8:2),
 - "filled with joy" (Acts 13:52),
 - "fill you with all joy" (Rom 15:13),
 - "be filled with joy" (2 Tim 1:4),
- "be made full" (Jn 3:29; 15:11; 16:24),
 - "make my joy full" (Phil 2:2),
 - "joy inexpressible" (1 Pet 1:8),
 - "no greater joy than this" (3 Jn 4)

1

JOY FROM FAVORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

- finding hidden treasure (Mt 13:44),
- birth of a baby (Jn 16:21)
 - both believers and unbelievers can experience this kind of joy



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JOY FROM GOD

- from God the Father (Rom 15:13),
 - from the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22; 1 Thess 1:6),
 - from pastors and teachers (2 Cor 1:24; Phil 1:25)
- ('we are co-workers of your joy' means "we are working with you to bring you joy"),
- from hearing the Word of God (Jn 15:11; 1 Thess 1:6; 1 Jn 1:4; 2 Jn 12),
 - from knowing the promises of God (Heb 10:34),
 - from faith—from believing the promises of God (Rom 15:13; 1 Pet 1:8),
 - from anticipating future rewards (1 Thess 2:19–20; Heb 10:34; 12:2)—this joy helps us endure suffering (Heb 12:2)

2

JOY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

- birth of John the Baptist (Lk 1:14),
 - miracles (Mt 2:10) (reappearance of the star to the Magi),
 - hearing good news (Mt 28:8) (angel tells women at the tomb Jesus is alive),
 - seeing Jesus alive (Lk 24:41),
 - hearing and receiving the Word of the Kingdom—includes the Gospel (Mt 13:20=Mk 4:16=Lk 8:13),
 - exercising authority over demons (Lk 10:17),
- successful exorcisms and healings (Acts 8:8),
- receiving answers to prayers (Jn 16:24),
 - unity and harmony in the local church (Phil 2:2),
 - fellowship with other Christians (Rom 15:32; 2 Cor 2:3; 7:13; Phil 2:29; 4:1; 2 Tim 1:4),
 - submissive sheep in the local church (Heb 13:17),
- seeing your spiritual children loving one another and walking in the truth (Phm 7; 3 Jn 4; cf. 1 Jn 1:4),
 - hearing about people being saved (Acts 15:3)—so angels in heaven when a sinner repents and becomes righteous (Lk 15:7, 10)