

Great Joy

In a year of cancellations, Christmas reminds us that a Believer's Joy cannot be cancelled.

The Christmas Connection...

But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of <u>GREAT JOY</u> that will be for all the people: Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was—the star they had seen at its rising. It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy. Matthew 2:9-10

I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. John 15:11

So, departing quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, they ran to tell his disciples the news. Matthew 28:8

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy. Matthew 25:21

Biblical Joy...

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, <u>joy</u>, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The law is not against such things. Galatians 5:22-23

- Happiness is fleeting because it is an emotion based on earthly circumstances.
- Joy is permanent because it is a gift of God based on unchanging spiritual realities.

What We Need To Know/Remember...

I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. John 15:11

Eternity: Jesus is Coming Again to Take Us to Heaven Forever

If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. John 14:3

o God works in Us So we Can Do Great Things

Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. John 15:2

Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12

I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. John 15:5

o God Guides Us into His Joy

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you. John 14:26

Why You Should Care About Joy

- Joy Fuels Our "Get Back Up" Power (Psalm 51:12)
- o Joy Fuels Our "Overcoming" Power (Nehemiah 8:10)