



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
The Wise Still Seek Him*

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*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

Rejoice Evermore!

Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord.

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.

The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion (Ps 134)

How I remember as a child going to all night prayer meetings and kneeling before the Lord in prayer. We understood Who the Lord Jesus Christ is – and, who we are not. The Lord is Holy God, and He calls us to be a holy people (Lev 11.45).

When I envision the magi traveling the very long distance through the desert, a precarious journey, to take gifts to the Christ child, I see them, those who were thought of as being kings, kneeling before the Christ to offer their gifts.

The Bible gives us this picture:

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and **fell down, and worshipped him**: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh (Mat 2:11).

How can we not have the joy of the Lord Jesus Christ in us, exuding from deep within us in a way that the world knows Whose we are and the joy of knowing Him as our Lord and Savior. Oh, that we might like Moses:

And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him (Exo 34:35)

How long since you have been in the presence of the Lord and knew no heart ache?

Moses knew the Lord face to face (Ex 33.11).

And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle (Exo 33:11).

Oh, and how I take notice of young Joshua who could not leave the presence of the Lord, who sought more of the Lord, who no doubt experienced the joy of the Lord as his strength.

We live in a time, as has always been, where Satan is alive and sick as ever. Satan comes to steal and to kill, and to destroy. We have too long listened to the enemy who has deceived the people of the Lord God Almighty and continues coming to steal and to kill, and to destroy.

How long has it been since you talked with the Lord
and told him your hearts hidden secrets?
How long since you prayed; how long since you stayed on your knees
'till the light shown through?
How long has it been since your mind felt at ease?
How long since your heart knew no burden?
Can you call him your friend?
How long has it been since you knew that he cared for you
How long has it been since you knelt by your bed
and prayed to the Lord up in heaven
How long since you knew that he'd answer you and would keep
you the whole night through?
How long has it been since you walked with the dawn
and felt that the days worth the living?
Can you call him your friend;
How long has it been since you knew that he cared for you?

Mosie Lister

Heard this sung by a dear friend, age 92

Mrs. Bettie L. Lowery, M.R.E., Deaconess The Rev. Mrs. Dr. C. S. Cole, Pastor, Ret.
Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ
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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *[it]* more abundantly (Jn 10:10).

The Word of the Lord teaches us that "...the joy of the LORD is your strength" (Neh 8:10). Jesus goes on in John Ten, verse 11, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

The Psalmist (Chapter 29) makes it clear that we are to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, that the Lord God in Christ Jesus is holy, and we are to lift our praises unto the Lord.

Walking in Him, endeavoring to live a life of holiness unto the Lord, blessing His Holy Name, bowing before Him, lifting up holy hands is to "Rejoice in the Lord."

I am reminded of Psalm 37 that is powerful in restoring to us the joy of our salvation.

Psa 37:1 <*A Psalm* of David.> Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

Psa 37:2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

Psa 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; *[so]* shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psa 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Psa 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *[it]* to pass.

Psa 37:6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Psa 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Psa 37:8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

Psa 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

Let the joy of the Lord arise in you, remembering your salvation in the Lord, forgiveness of sins, and the call of the Lord to a life of holiness in Him. Romans 14:17 reveals to us that Kingdom of God is "peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." Romans 12:12 reveals that we are to be "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer."

The life in Christ Jesus is to be as is given to us in Acts 5:41: "And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name."

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing *[this]*, that the trying of your faith worked patience (Ja 1:1, 2).

The joy of the Lord causes us to rejoice in Him, what He has done for us, what He is doing for us, and that He causes us to be a servant unto Him, to live a life of holiness. The Lord is our source of joy, which gives to us a peace that passes all understanding. When we have the joy of the Lord and His peace, we will walk in harmony with Him and His calling upon our lives – and, the enemy will not destroy our joy though Satan will continue coming against us if we are serving the Lord God Almighty.

If we are to rejoice for evermore, our prayer life must be constant. We must seek the Lord that we might be strengthened in Him,

The following are some passages of scripture that may help us to more fully understand the command to rejoice in the Lord at all times. Rejoicing is a heart that is gladdened, that is full of the love of the Lord that exudes forth in our countenance, our lives endeavoring to live the life of holiness to which we are called.

Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *[for]* praise is comely for the upright. (Psa 33:1)

Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. (Psa 97:12)

Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, *[and]* shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel. (Isa 41:16)

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *[himself]* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *[herself]* with her jewels. (Isa 61:10)

Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *[month]*. (Joe 2:23)

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. (Hab 3:18)

And *[they of]* Ephraim shall be like a mighty *[man]*, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine: yea, their children shall see *[it]*, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD. (Zec 10:7)

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed *[is]* not grievous, but for you *[it is]* safe. (Phi 3:1)

Rejoice in the Lord alway: *[and]* again I say, Rejoice. (Phi 4:4)

Very little needs to be written on the joy of the Lord – and, yet, sadly – perhaps it does as so many are not rejoicing in the Lord, are not able to see anything for which they can and should be thankful, especially our salvation in Christ Jesus through His shed blood on the Cross of Calvary..

Have we walked in our own willful ways so long; have we walked with the world and the worldly churches so long; have we taken our eyes off the Lord Jesus Christ; and have we walked that broad way that leads to destruction so long that has caused us to forget the the Lord Jesus Christ dying on the Cross of Calvary, His shedding His blood for our sins – that we have lost the joy of the Lord? Have we taken our eyes off the Lord and what He has done for us and is doing for us daily? Have we lost our joy because of our walking in our own willful way instead of walking with Him, walking in obedience to Him?

Daily, we should be rejoicing for the Lord of our salvation, giving thanks to Him for loving us as He does. We rejoice because He cares for us and is present to us in our daily walk with Him. A grateful heart, a heart of love, wants to be in communion, Holy Communion, with the Lord desiring to walk in His holiness. When we walk with the Lord, such joy will be ours. When we are talking and listening to the Lord, our hearts will rejoice as we walk closer and closer to the Lord.

When we walk with the Lord as His Holy Word directs, there will be a source of joy, a calm and composed mind that will not be unduly disturbed by the adversities that come to us. We will rejoice in the Lord that He is with us in the midst of those adversities.

When we walk and talk with the Lord, His joy shall renew and strengthen us daily – His joy shall be our strength..