

# The Restoration of Joy

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**Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.**

**Habakkuk 3:17-19**



**Weeping may endure for  
a night, but joy comes in  
the morning.**

**Psalm 30:5**



**Joy is multifaceted.**



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**Joy covers a wide spectrum  
of possibilities.**



**In the Hebrew, the most common word for joy is “sinchah” which means “joy, mirth or gladness. But there is also the word “gil” which refers to “rejoicing” or being “exceedingly glad”, to “leap or spin around with pleasure”. In the Greek, the word is “chara” means “joy or gladness” and is closely related to the verbal form “chairō” meaning to “rejoice or be glad”.**



**Joy as a delight of the mind  
arising from the consideration  
of a present or assured possession  
of a future good.**

**New Unger's Bible Dictionary**



- When moderate it is called gladness. Psalm 100:2, Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve or worship the Lord with gladness.
- Raised suddenly to the highest degree, it is exultation or transport, like when you leap for joy.
- When desires are limited by one's possessions, it is contentment.





# Philippians 3:11-12



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**•High desires accomplished  
brings satisfaction.**



- **When opposition is vanquished,  
you experience the joy of triumph.**

**I Samuel 18:6**



# Luke 10:17



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**Do not rejoice that the spirits  
submit to you, but rejoice that  
your names are written in  
heaven.**

**Luke 10:20**



- **When joy has so possessed your mind that it has settled into a temper, we call it cheerfulness. This is natural joy.**



- **There is a moral joy which is a self-approbation or that which arises from the performance of any good action, this kind of joy is called peace or serenity.**



**The highest form of joy is spiritual joy. While there are other things in this life that give us joy, God is ultimately the object of our joy.**





**Then I will go to the altar of  
God, to God, my joy  
and my delight.**

**Psalm 43:4**



**I delight greatly in the Lord;  
my soul rejoices in my God.**

**Isaiah 61:10**



**Though you have not seen him, you love him and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.**

**I Peter 1:8**



**Jesus promised his disciples then and now, as he would leave the earth that he would give us joy.**

**John 16:16-24**



**This spiritual joy  
is permanent.**



**The joy that Jesus gives is a  
fruit of the Spirit.**



**For the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
joy, peace, forbearance, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness  
and self-control.**

**Galatians 5:22**



**The works of the flesh or  
the sinful human nature  
are what we do naturally.**





**The good that I would is  
not what I do, but that  
which I should not do is  
what I keep on doing.**



**That's when joy seems  
to be evasive.**



# Discussion:

**When was joy most evasive in your life? What were the circumstances?**



**God welcomes our questions,  
God can handle our queries.**



**The spiritual and moral decline  
of Judah and the apparent  
unwillingness of God to intervene  
is the reason for Habakkuk's  
questioning of God.**



**When Habakkuk prayed to  
him, he would not answer.  
It felt like he wasn't  
even listening.**



**When God is silent, that can be  
the most unnerving thing,  
especially when your situation  
is stressing you out or you are  
feeling overwhelmed.**



# Discussion:

**What individual or group do you see getting away with murder (so to speak) in our country? Or, what question would you like to ask God right now?**





**Joy as a fruit of the Spirit  
is not dependent on our  
circumstances. The only  
circumstance upon which  
joy depends is that of  
one's life in Christ.**



**How in the world did Habakkuk  
move from being distressed  
to having fullness of joy?**



**We have to choose to have  
joy no matter what is going  
on in our lives.**



**I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.**

## **Habakkuk 2:1**



**Habakkuk believed in God, he believed that God had an answer for his people. His questions demonstrated the faith that he had in God, not the lack of it. But a greater demonstration of his faith was to wait on God to answer in prayer.**



**There is a blessing in  
the waiting.**



# Isaiah 40:31



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**What the prophet Isaiah intended here is seen in the Hebrew word for wait, Kah-vah, that means “to wait for, to look for, expect, hope”. Kahvah is the root of the noun tikvah which means “hope” or “expectancy”. It expresses the idea of “waiting hopefully”.**





# **Psalms 40:1**



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**In all our troubles,  
my joy has no bounds.**

**II Corinthians 7:4**



# Romans 5:3



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**James 1:2 says, Count it all joy!**



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**To “live” by faith is to “stay  
alive” be preserved, to flourish.**

**To enjoy life, to have joy  
no matter what the  
circumstances in your life are.**



# Romans 1:16-17



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**It is by faith that we must live  
every day of our lives.**



**We have hope and joy.**



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# Habakkuk 3:13



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# Matthew 1:21



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# Luke 2:11



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**Good news of great joy  
which shall be to all people.  
Deliverance has come!**



**Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crops fail and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on to the heights.**



# Gil



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# Philippians 4:4



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**God enables us to do  
supernaturally what we find  
difficult to do in the natural.**





**But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart rejoices in your  
salvation. I will sing to the Lord  
for he has been good to me.**

## **Psalm 13:5**



# Discussion:

**What is happening or has happened in your life that you need to rejoice about?**



# Discussion Questions:

1. When was joy most evasive in your life? What were the circumstances?
2. What individual or group do you see getting away with murder (so to speak) in our country? Or, what question would you like to ask God right now?
3. What is happening or has happened in your life that you need to rejoice about?

