

The Fruit of the Spirit

Joy

Intro: Joy is closely related to gladness and happiness, although it is more a state of being than an emotion, it is a result of one's _____. Having joy is part of the experience of being a Christian. From time to time, one hears of a Believer "losing their joy". The fact is that as a Christian it is the Holy Spirit that indwells us, thus to "lose one's joy" is to have lost that fellowship with and _____ of the Holy Spirit by our own choosing.

- I. Joy to the world came in the form of Jesus Christ's _____ **Luke 2:8-14**
- A. *Good tidings of great joy*-good news which is filled _____ of rejoicing and gladness **Vs 10a**
1. The good news of the Messiah _____ **Vs 11**
 2. The good news that the Messiah is _____ deliverance **Vs 11**
 3. The good news that the Messiah is _____ for any who will seek for him **Vs 12**
- B. *Which shall be to all people*-this good news is not _____ to a few but is meant for everyone everywhere **Vs 10b**
- C. The good news of Jesus' coming to the earth resulted in praise and glory given to God, the Father **Vs 13-14a**
- D. The good news of Jesus' coming to the earth created an _____ for people to experience true peace and harmony among mankind
1. This is only available through the _____ of salvation
 2. Those who reject the miracle of salvation only experience the _____ of "peace and good will among men"
- II. There is joy in _____ over those who repent of their sin **Luke 15:1-10**
- III. For the Believer, joy comes through _____ and service to God **John 15:1-11**
- IV. Joy is found in staying focused on _____ and what He has done for us as believers
- A. **Phil 3:1** *In addition, my brothers, and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is a safeguard for you. CSB*
- B. **Phil 4:4** *Rejoice in the Lord always: and again, I say, Rejoice.*
- V. Joy should be _____ in the believer at all times and in all situations (All verses from Christian Standard Bible)
- A. **2 Thessalonians 5:16-19** *Rejoice always,¹⁷ pray constantly,¹⁸ give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.¹⁹ Don't stifle the Spirit.*
- B. **1 Pet 1:3-6** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead 4 and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. 5 You are being guarded by God's power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 You rejoice in this, even though now for a short time, if necessary, you suffer grief in various trials.*
- C. **Matt 5:11-12** *You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. 12 Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*
- D. **Acts 5:38-41** *So in the present case, I tell you, stay away from these men and leave them alone. For if this plan or this work is of human origin, it will fail; 39 but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You may even be found fighting against God." They were persuaded by him. 40 After they called in the apostles and had them flogged, they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. 41 Then they went out from the*

presence of the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to be treated shamefully on behalf of the Name.

- E. **James 1:2-4** *Consider it a great joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.*
- F. **1 Pet 4:12-14** *Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you, as if something unusual were happening to you. 13 Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.*

VI. _____ has left the Believer an example to focus on

Hebrews 12:1-3 *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

Conclusion: The only way a Believer will "lose their joy" is by taking our eyes _____ Christ and what He has done for us to bring about our salvation and sanctification.