

## ***The Joy Of Salvation***

Psalm 13

**Psalms 13:5** NAS95 5 But I have trusted in Your lovingkindness; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

**Psalms 51:12** NAS95 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.

### ***Introduction:***

1. One of the fruits of the Spirit is said to be joy (Gal. 5:22).
2. We read of the gospel bringing great joy to a city in Samaria (Acts 8:8).
3. The Philippian letter encourages rejoicing in the Lord (Phil. 4:1) and could easily be styled "The Epistle Of Joy."
4. John writes of his joy as a result of learning of the faithfulness of others (2 Jn. 4; 3 Jn. 3-4).
5. In The Old Testament we find many of the Psalms containing direct mentions of joy as well as outbursts of joyous expressions.
6. However, for a long period of time Christianity was not seen as a system of joy.
7. Somehow suffering and misery (self-inflicted) were the normal practices.
8. So much teaching and preaching on sin and doom was done by the reformers that an over-reaction may have taken place.
  - a. **Oliver Wendell Holmes** once said, I might have entered the ministry if certain clergymen I knew had not looked and acted so much like undertakers."
  - b. **Robert Louis Stevenson** once entered in his diary, as if he was recording an extraordinary phenomenon, "I went to Church today, and I am not depressed."
9. Some Christian's today act as though being a Christian is a terminal disease!
10. Some are worried sick about their salvation—having no sense of assurance.
11. Trust in the Lord and rejoicing in His salvation is the single greatest sustaining power at our disposal.

### ***I. The Joy Of Salvation Is Realized In The Knowledge Of God's Resources.***

#### **A. God is the source of happiness.**

1. Psalm 103 is the praise of a happy man (Psa. 103:1, 2, 22). **GOTO**

2. A happy person is always content (1 Tim. 6:6).

**1 Timothy 6:6** But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.

### **B. God is the source of wisdom.**

1. The Lord provides wisdom through his words (Prov. 2:6-11).

**Proverbs 2:6-11** NAS95 6 For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity, 8 Guarding the paths of justice, And He preserves the way of His godly ones. 9 Then you will discern righteousness and justice And equity and every good course. 10 For wisdom will enter your heart And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; 11 Discretion will guard you, Understanding will watch over you,

2. Wisdom may be requested by those of solid faith (James 1:5-8).

**James 1:5-8** NAS95 5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

### **C. God is the source of strength.**

1. The Psalmist points this out for us (Psa. 46).

**Psalms 46:1-11** NAS95 1 <<For the choir director. A Psalm of the sons of Korah, set to Alamoth. A Song.>> God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; 3 Though its waters roar and foam, Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah. 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, The holy dwelling places of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. 6 The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah. 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has wrought desolations in the earth. 9 He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots with fire. 10 "Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." 11 The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah.

2. His word is our strength.

**1 John 2:14** NAS95 14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

## ***II. The Joy Of Salvation Is Found In God's Forgiveness.***

### **A. The heaviest burden man has ever had to bear comes as a result of his**

**Isaiah 59:1-2** NAS95 1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.

**Romans 6:23** NAS95 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Hebrews 10:27** NAS95 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

**Hebrews 10:31** NAS95 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

### **B. Forgiveness brings the elimination of that burden--a freedom from sin.**

1. God sent His Son to die for our sins.

**Romans 5:6-8** For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

2. When baptized, sins are forgiven (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-7).
3. Thus, after he was baptized the Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing (Acts 8:39).

## ***III. The Joy Of Salvation Is Achieved In Obedience To God's Will.***

### **A. We can know the truth {will of God}.**

**John 8:32** NAS95 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

### **B. We can know what to do.**

**Ephesians 5:17** NAS95 17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

**C. We can have assurance (Rom. 8:16).**

**Romans 8:16** The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

**D. We can be aware of being recipients of God's blessings.**

**Ephesians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

**E. We can know of the rest promised to faithful Christians.**

**Revelation 14:13** NAS95 13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

**Conclusion:**

1. The gospel is all for our advantage, that we might have life and have it abundantly (Jn. 10:10).
2. It ought to be a life filled with joy--the joy of salvation.
3. If your not a Christian can you say that you are partaking in the Joy of Salvation that God provides?
4. Why not obey today.
5. If you're a Christian, do you live a life that shows the joy of salvation.

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