THE PERFECT NINE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Text:

Galatians 5:22-23: ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith. ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.



Theme: The Joy of which the world knows nothing about

Example: The Roman Emperor could not understand "WHY" the Christians could be singing while waiting for death at the hands of their persecutors and executioners.

Subject: The second helping of Joy

The first and initial installment of Joy is in our salvation by grace through faith in the atoning Blood of our only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 12:2-3: Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation.

³ Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Luke 2:10-11:

¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Acts 8:6, 8:

⁶ And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.
⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:39:

And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Psalms 51:12: Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

John 15:11: These things have I spoken unto you, that My Joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.



Psalms 23:5: Thou preparest a table before Me in the presence of Mine enemies: thou anointest My Head with oil; My cup runneth over.

Acts 13:52: And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

Romans 14:17: For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost

1 Thessalonians 1:6: And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the Word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.

The Lord wants His people to be a joyful happy people. Christians who are mulefaced do not compliment the Lord's Salvation. Some folks look like they were weaned on a dill pickle barrel, or are sucking on a lemon.

Since it takes 32 muscles to frown, and only 16 muscles to smile; you might as well smile and give your face a rest.

Yet, we cannot smile without the Joy of the Lord which is our strength.



Nehemiah 8:12: And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

Jesus said:

John 16:33: These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Genesis 21:6: And Sarah said, "God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me."



God tickled her funny bone. Human joy depends on pleasant surroundings, a full stomach, or human joy water (the devil's water - alcohol).

Cults have no real joy. Why? They have no real salvation and no Holy Ghost connections, i.e. Mormonism, Seventh Day Adventists, Legalism, Spiritism.

Why does God give us this extra helping of joy?

Acts 5:41: And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.

2 Corinthians 7:4: Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

1 Peter 1:6-8:

⁶ Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

⁷ That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

⁸ Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

James 1:2-4:

² My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

³ Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

⁴ But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Joy is associated with love and is love with a happy spell. "Joy is the happiness of love", said Dr. Hamilton.

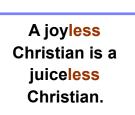


QUESTION:

Did you know that our joy brings the Lord much closer to us?

ANSWER: Isaiah 64:5: Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, those that remember Thee in Thy ways: behold, Thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved.

What a marvelous thing it is that we are not dependent upon the worldly pleasures or entertainers for our joy. Many of their silly jokes will give only a moment of laughter. Have you noticed that?



A **joyless** Christian is a **juiceless** Christian. Supernatural joy comes from the Holy Ghost. That is why King David said:

Psalms 23:5: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

And I might add, "And my saucer, too." The anointing of the Holy Spirit gives us the overflow.

This Joy is not dependent on having everything we desire. Neither is it affected by outward difficulties or troubles. The apostles, while in adversities, still rejoiced.

Acts 5:41: And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.

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