

Come Let Us Adore Him

Joy



Advent Season

Hope

peace

love

Today – Joy

- includes both feeling, emotion & response
- based on something real

Luke 2:10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”



1. The Search for Joy

- 'life, liberty & pursuit of happiness'
- motivates most in our world – find true joy
- lots of substitutes – don't deliver

a) culture

- possessions
- processes
- places
- people



b) religion

- different than relationship with Jesus
- pursuit of spirituality
- experience that makes us feel
- put up a fence against Joy being lost

c) God's Design and Purpose

- God is a Joyful God, made in image of God



- Jer. 32:40-41 "I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul."

- Luke 15:7 "Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."



- God cares about our Joy

- John 10:9-11 "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

- Gal. 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."



2. Bible Speaks about Joy – Important

a) Psalmist David

- 4:7 “You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.”

- 16:11 “You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

- 32:10-11 “Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!”



b) Jesus on Joy

- John 15:11 “These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

- Luke 10:19-20 “Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”



c) Paul on Joy

Rom. 12:15 “Rejoice with those who rejoice,
weep with those who weep.”

1 Thess. 5:16-18 “Rejoice always, pray without
ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the
will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

- Phil. 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will
say, rejoice.”



3. Source of Real Joy

a) Relationship with God

- Romans 15:13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

- Acts 13:52 “And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.”

- John 17:13 “But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.”



b) Co-exists with difficulty

- both sorrow and joy can be present
- 2 Cor. 6:10 “as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing...”
- Psalm 51:12 “Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”
- be real, joy can fade, grow cold, need to be identified and restored. The one place it's found in asking and receiving from God



c) motivation for seeking Joy in Christ

- Heb. 12:2 “looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”



So What?

1. Created to seek and know Joy
2. Drawn to counterfeit places
3. Found in Relationship with God through Jesus
4. Available even in difficult times
5. Celebrate and Evaluate in the Christmas message

