

“JOY IS THE GIGANTIC SECRET OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.”

—G.K. CHESTERTON

“CELEBRATION IS AT THE HEART OF THE WAY OF CHRIST.

JESUS ENTERED THE WORLD ON THE HIGH NOTE OF JUBILATION: ‘I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY,’ CRIED THE ANGEL, ‘WHICH SHALL COME TO ALL PEOPLE’ (LUKE 2:10). HE LEFT THE WORLD BEQUEATHING HIS JOY TO HIS DISCIPLES: ‘THESE THINGS I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU THAT MY JOY MAY BE IN YOU AND YOUR JOY MAY BE FULL’ (JOHN 15:11).” —RICHARD FOSTER

.001.tiff

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH!

—NEHEMIAH 8:10

.002.tiff

“IF YOU HAVE NO JOY, THERE’S A LEAK IN YOUR CHRISTIANITY SOMEWHERE.” —BILLY SUNDAY

.003.tiff

¹PRESERVE ME, O GOD, FOR IN YOU I TAKE REFUGE.
²I SAY TO THE LORD, “YOU ARE MY LORD; I HAVE NO GOOD APART FROM YOU.” ³AS FOR THE SAINTS IN THE LAND, THEY ARE THE EXCELLENT ONES, IN WHOM IS ALL MY DELIGHT. ⁴THE SORROWS OF THOSE WHO RUN AFTER ANOTHER GOD SHALL MULTIPLY; THEIR DRINK OFFERINGS OF BLOOD I WILL NOT POUR OUT OR TAKE THEIR NAMES ON MY LIPS. ⁵THE LORD IS MY CHOSEN PORTION AND MY CUP; YOU HOLD MY LOT. ⁶THE LINES HAVE FALLEN FOR ME IN PLEASANT PLACES; INDEED, I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL INHERITANCE.

.004.tiff

⁷I BLESS THE LORD WHO GIVES ME COUNSEL;
IN THE NIGHT ALSO MY HEART INSTRUCTS ME.
⁸I HAVE SET THE LORD ALWAYS BEFORE ME; BECAUSE
HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, I SHALL NOT BE SHAKEN.
⁹THEREFORE MY HEART IS GLAD, AND MY WHOLE BEING
REJOICES; MY FLESH ALSO DWELLS SECURE.
¹⁰FOR YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO SHEOL,
OR LET YOUR HOLY ONE SEE CORRUPTION. ¹¹YOU MAKE
KNOWN TO ME THE PATH OF LIFE; IN YOUR PRESENCE
THERE IS FULLNESS OF JOY; AT YOUR RIGHT HAND
ARE PLEASURES FOREVERMORE. —PSALM 16:1-11

.005.tif

I. JOY IS FOUND WHEN WE TAKE COMFORT IN
GOD'S CHARACTER AND NOT IN OUR PRESENT
CIRCUMSTANCE. (PSALM 16:1-2)

.006.tif



GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH,
A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE
—PSALM 46:1

.007.tif

.008.tif



“THE PRINCIPLES OF GAIN
THROUGH LOSS, OF JOY THROUGH
SORROW, OF GETTING BY GIVING,
OF FULFILLMENT BY LAYING DOWN,
OF LIFE OUT OF DEATH IS WHAT
THE BIBLE TEACHES, AND THE
PEOPLE WHO HAVE BELIEVED IT
ENOUGH TO LIVE IT OUT IN SIMPLE,
HUMBLE, DAY-BY-DAY PRACTICE
ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE FOUND
THE GAIN, THE JOY, THE GETTING,
THE FULFILLMENT, THE LIFE.”

—ELISABETH ELLIOT

.009.tiff

“JOY IS DISTINCTLY A CHRISTIAN WORD
AND A CHRISTIAN THING. IT IS THE REVERSE
OF HAPPINESS. HAPPINESS IS THE RESULT
OF WHAT HAPPENS OF AN AGREEABLE SORT.
JOY HAS ITS SPRINGS DEEP DOWN INSIDE.
AND THAT SPRING NEVER RUNS DRY, NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS. ONLY JESUS GIVES THAT JOY.
HE HAD JOY, SINGING ITS MUSIC WITHIN,
EVEN UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS.”

—S.D. GORDON

.010.tiff

2. JOY IS REINFORCED IN WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD'S PEOPLE (PSALM 16:3-4)

.011.tiff

“THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST IS NOT
A COLLECTION OF
ISOLATIONISTS. THE NEW
TESTAMENT DESCRIBES THE
CHURCH WITH METAPHORS
LIKE 'FLOCK' (ACTS 20:28),
'BODY' (1 CORINTHIANS 12:12),
'STRUCTURE' (EPHESIANS 2:21)
AND A 'HOUSEHOLD'
(EPHESIANS 2:19), EACH OF
WHICH IMPLIES A RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL UNITES
AND A LARGER WHOLE.”

—DONALD WHITNEY

.012.tiff

²⁴AND LET US CONSIDER
HOW TO STIR UP
ONE ANOTHER TO LOVE
AND GOOD WORKS,
²⁵NOT NEGLECTING
TO MEET TOGETHER,
AS IS THE HABIT OF SOME,
BUT ENCOURAGING
ONE ANOTHER, AND
ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE
THE DAY DRAWING NEAR.
—HEBREWS 10:24-25

.013.tif

¹¹NOT THAT I AM SPEAKING
OF BEING IN NEED,
FOR I HAVE LEARNED,
IN WHATEVER SITUATION
I AM, TO BE CONTENT.
¹²I KNOW HOW TO BE
BROUGHT LOW, AND I KNOW
HOW TO ABOUND. IN ANY
AND EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE,
I HAVE LEARNED THE SECRET
OF FACING PLENTY AND
HUNGER, ABUNDANCE
AND NEED. ¹³I CAN DO ALL
THINGS THROUGH HIM
WHO STRENGTHENS ME.
—PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13

.015.tif

3. JOY ROOTS IN RELIANCE ON GOD'S PROVISION
AND NOT OUR OWN PREFERENCES.
(PSALM 16:5-6)

.014.tif

“CONTENTMENT IS FOUND IN SURRENDER
TO GOD'S PROVISION AND GRATITUDE
FOR GOD'S GRACE IN MY LIFE.”

.016.tif

4. JOY IS FOUND IN OBEDIENCE
TO THE COUNSEL OF GOD'S WORD
(PSALM 16:7-10)

.017.tif

AS FOR YOU, YOU MEANT EVIL AGAINST ME,
BUT GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD, TO BRING IT ABOUT
THAT MANY PEOPLE SHOULD BE KEPT ALIVE,
AS THEY ARE TODAY. —GENESIS 50:20

AND WE KNOW THAT FOR THOSE WHO LOVE GOD
ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD,
FOR THOSE WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING
TO HIS PURPOSE. —ROMANS 8:28

5. JOY IS LINKED TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD
(PSALM 16:11)

.019.tif

“JOY IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF SUFFERING;
IT IS THE PRESENCE OF GOD.”
—SAM STORMS

.020.tif

HE IS THE RADIANCE
OF THE GLORY OF GOD
AND THE EXACT IMPRINT
OF HIS NATURE, AND HE
UPHOLDS THE UNIVERSE
BY THE WORD OF HIS
POWER. AFTER MAKING
PURIFICATION FOR SINS,
HE SAT DOWN AT THE
RIGHT HAND OF THE
MAJESTY ON HIGH.
—HEBREWS 1:3

.021.tiff

Remembering His sacrifice.



.022.tiff

¹THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT
A CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US ALSO LAY ASIDE
EVERY WEIGHT, AND SIN WHICH CLINGS SO CLOSELY,
AND LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE
THAT IS SET BEFORE US, ²LOOKING 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. ³CONSIDER HIM
WHO ENDURED FROM SINNERS SUCH HOSTILITY
AGAINST HIMSELF, SO THAT YOU MAY NOT GROW WEARY
OR FAINTHEARTED. —HEBREWS 12:1-3

.023.tiff

WHO IS TO CONDEMN? CHRIST JESUS IS THE ONE WHO DIED—
MORE THAN THAT, WHO WAS RAISED—WHO IS AT THE
RIGHT HAND OF GOD, WHO INDEED IS INTERCEDING FOR US.
—ROMANS 8:34

.024.tiff

BRAIN AT 3 AM:

I CAN SEE YOU'RE TRYING TO SLEEP, SO I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER YOU A SELECTION OF EVERY MEMORY, UNRESOLVED ISSUE, OR THINGS YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID OR DONE TODAY AS WELL IS IN THE PAST 40 YEARS!

.025.tif

¹⁸KNOWING THAT YOU WERE RANSOMED FROM THE FUTILE WAYS INHERITED FROM YOUR FOREFATHERS, NOT WITH PERISHABLE THINGS SUCH AS SILVER OR GOLD,
¹⁹BUT WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, LIKE THAT OF A LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH OR SPOT.²⁰ HE WAS FOREKNOWN BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD BUT WAS MADE MANIFEST IN THE LAST TIMES FOR THE SAKE OF YOU —I PETER 1:18-20

.026.tif