

The Word in Meditation

JOY OF THE LORD

May 17, 1982

Hello my friends, to the Word in Meditation. I am pleased to be able to be on this program as your speaker. I pray God's blessing for you as you listen; so, you will grow to maturity in the faith. Let's pray.

Father God, we thank you for the broadcast, which is made possible by your blessings through faithful listeners. We pray you bless this teaching to our ears and hearts in Jesus' Name we pray, amen.

Do you know what I heard a while back? A Christian told me, "You know, I just don't feel the joy of the Lord." I would shake my head and wonder at what he said.

I sat in a church service and heard the pastor say, "Have you ever felt that you lost sight of your first love and wanted to get it back?" I knew the pastor personally, and I knew he asked question from within his own heart. *How* to get back or *get* it back. This is, I suppose, a question hundreds of thousands have asked. Too recapture the *joy* of the Lords.

I looked up the word joy in the Merriam-Webster dictionary and it give this definition: "Joy is a feeling of happiness that comes from cusses, good fortune, or a sense of well-being. A source or cause of happiness. Bliss, delight, enjoyment, pleasure." An opposite of joy, friends, is the state of being joy-less; empty of joy.

This joy is powerful and is absolutely necessary in the life of a Christian. When we hear the words, "I don't feel the joy of the Lord," we are hearing that one crying for help. They are desperate, nothing is going well, and they even wonder if God hears their prayers. Have you ever felt that way?

Listen friend, I am here with *good* news. This week we will discover a secret to walking in joy in order to experience continual joy deep down in your spirit even if you don't laugh all of the time. Joy will pervade your spirit to the point it will come out in your everyday life. There will be no way to hide it.

Let's look very briefly at our text this week. It is important to have a platform, a foundation scripture and here it is," John 15:10-11. That's John 15:10-11. Jesus said, "If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things have I spoken to you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy may be full."

I really love it when God opens the eyes of my understanding. I'll tell you it is as though daylight has broken. It locks into me and that's that. I will not be moved from that truth, for with every truth I receive I am made freer than I was before. You see, truth is in Jesus, because Jesus *is* truth. No where else, not with Buddha, Muhammad, or any other long dead human; but praise God! Jesus isn't dead, he's alive and He *is* truth.

Well, time is all gone for today. Tune in tomorrow for this exciting news!

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

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