

The Word in Meditation

JOY OF THE LORD

Friday May 21, 1982

Thank you for tuning to the broadcast of The Word in Meditation. In a world fraught with problems, I am glad we have an anchor which is Jesus Christ, and we don't have to be moved from Him because when the Word of God is *in* us, we stand victorious. Winners in the faith!

Lord, we pray your Holy spirit teach us now your truth. This we pray in Jesus Name, amen.

Let's turn right to our scripture text. John 15:10-11. Let's read together. "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 unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

As was said yesterday, if the words of God abide in you – *live* in you then you will have joy.

There is such a thing as empty joy. One would experience empty joy the following fashion. They go to church, maybe, and there is a really good service. Afterwards, there might be a time of fellowship. The person sings songs and really *is* very happy; that is, until they are by themselves. The person may feel 'down.' Kind of depressed. They felt so exuberant yesterday. What happened? Then an idea strikes their mind. They may think 'I cannot hardly wait to get with those people again.' Sure enough, time rolls around, they are with the Christians, and bingo! They just feel good all over again; but, go home and the joy is gone again. Now, raise your hand if you have felt that way. I went through this sort of thing for several years. Up, down, up, down. What a roller coaster! How many other people were in the same boat? Only God knows.

Joy of this type is empty and dependent upon *people* for edification. So many people I have found are on that merry-go-round and it is no wonder so many finally fall away. Worn out, tired of an unfulfilled experience. Non-believers see the folks fall away and/or compromise by saying, "If *that* is what Christianity is, forget it!" We need to wake up to the fact that Jesus says here, "These things I have spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy may be full."

When we really grasp the concept that it takes the joy of Jesus, the Word of God filling us completely to make our joy full, we will *not* live an up and down experience. When I grasped this in my own life and made a *decision* to get the Word of God in me through tapes, reading, talking or whatever. It *radically* changed me in a very short time.

When you realize that the fullness of the joy of Christ Jesus comes through the implantation of *His* Word in your spirit by your availing yourself to the Word of god, you will have started, at last, on the way to experiencing absolute joy in the face of adversity. Your joy will be *full* to overflowing.

For those of you who are lacking in the joy of the Lord, hear these words. They will make you free.

Well, time is gone for today. I'd like for you to have this week's transcripts of the program. Write and ask for 'The Joy of the Lord.' I will get it right out to you with no obligation.

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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