

## A Twist of Joy!

Sunday Morning, April 21, 2013

**Thesis:** God Wants Believers to Have Joy in Him As Seen in Your Lives & Marriages!

**Introduction:** It has been quoted: "Joy is a gift God gives to those who make God their treasure."

### **I. Revive Joy in Our Christian Lives** (Matthew 6: 19 – 21)

19 "Don't collect for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal.

20 But collect for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Treasure?

### **(Revelation 2: 1 – 7)**

1 "Write to the angel of the church in Ephesus:

"The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand and who walks among the seven gold lampstands says:

2 I know your works, your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil. You have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and you have found them to be liars.

3 You also possess endurance and have tolerated many things because of My name and have not grown weary.

4 But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first.

5 Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

6 Yet you do have this: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7 "Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. I will give the victor the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in God's paradise.

First Love?

### **(Philippians 4:4)**

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Rejoice Always  
The Big Picture

### **(I Timothy 6: 17)**

Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant or to set their hope on the un-certainty of wealth, but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy.

Trust God...Not Riches

### **II. Eternal Focus Brings Joy!**

#### **(Hebrews 12: 1 – 2)**

1 Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,

2 keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God's throne.

Joy Set Before Him!

### **(Jude 24 – 25)**

24 Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless and with great joy,

25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time, now and forever. Amen.

Will Present You Faultless

### **(I Corinthians 15:24)**

Then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to God the Father, when He abolishes all rule and all authority and power.

T.S. A Twist of Joy!

### **III. The Intention of Marriage Is...**

**(Mark 10: 7 – 8)**

7 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother [and be joined to his wife],

8 and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

*Joy and Being a Witness for Christ!*

**(John 17: 18 – 21)**

18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

19 I sanctify Myself for them, so they also may be sanctified by the truth.

20 I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in Me through their message.

21 May they all be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You. May they also be one in Us, so the world may believe You sent Me.

*Set Apart for God*

*Set Apart for Each Other*

**(Ephesians 5:25)**

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her

*Love Your Wife...Find Joy in Her!*

**(Revelation 7:17)**

For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; He will guide them to springs of living waters, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

*Be Centered on Christ Who Leads You to Life.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*God Wants Believers to Have Joy in Him,  
As Seen in Your Lives and Marriages!*