

# JOY

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Joy is a quality of gladness, delight, and jubilation.

The spiritual fruit of joy and the emotion of happiness are not the same. Each springs from a different source. Happiness comes from the world around you and is dependent upon your circumstances. Joy originates with the Spirit of God and is not dependent upon outward circumstances.

Jesus Christ brought joy at His birth:

**And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.**

**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)**

It is God's desire that you have joy:

**These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. (John 15:11)**

**And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. (John 17:13)**

The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Ghost:

**And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost. (Acts 13:52)**

The believer's source of joy is not worldly things but God:

**...in thy presence, is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (Psalms 16:11)**

Because your joy is spiritual and not dependent on outward circumstances you can rejoice in temptation:

**My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations... (James 1:2)**

You can also rejoice in tribulation [difficult times]:

**...I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation. (II Corinthians 7:4)**

You can be longsuffering with joy:

**...longsuffering with joyfulness. (Colossians 1:11)**

Joy is part of the Kingdom of God:

**For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. (Romans 14:17)**

The Bible encourages believers to be joyful and express this joy unto the Lord:

**But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy....let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. (Psalms 5:11)**

(See also Psalms 35:9; 63:5; 66:1; 81:1; 95:1-2; 149:5; 98:4,6,8; 100:1).