

Things That Matter
Beautiful Produce in an Age of Crop
Failure

4: "On Joy"

I Peter 1:3-9

Romans 14:17

"¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

John 10:10

"¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

John 17:13

"¹³ But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves."

I Thessalonians 5:16

"¹⁶ Rejoice always."

Philippians 4:4

"⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"

I Peter 1:6

"⁶ In this you **greatly rejoice**, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials."

I Peter 1:3-9

"³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to {obtain} an inheritance {which is} imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, ...

...you have been distressed by various trials,⁷ that the proof of your faith, {being} more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, **you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,**⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

**Our hope and consequence
of Joy rests upon
the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead.**

**Our hope and consequence of joy
rests in the promise of our reward.**

I Peter 1:4

“⁴ to {obtain} an inheritance {which is} **imperishable** and **undefiled** and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,”

Isaiah 24:3-4

“³ The earth will be completely **laid waste** and completely **despoiled**, [to strip, rob, to deprive] for the LORD has spoken this word. ⁴ The earth mourns {and} withers, the world fades {and} withers, the exalted of the people of the earth fade away.”
[The razing of the land.]

Jeremiah 2:7

“⁷ And I brought you into the fruitful land, to eat its fruit and its good things. But you came and defiled My land, and My inheritance you made an abomination.”

**Our hope rests in
Christ's protection
until he returns.**

Misplaced security

Luke 10:17-20

“¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.’ ¹⁸ And He said to them, ‘I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.”

Sin in our lives

Psalm 51:12

“¹² Restore to me
the joy of Your salvation
And sustain me
with a willing spirit.”

The discipline of God can
lead to a lack of joy.

Hebrews 12:11

“¹¹ All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.”

Hebrews 12:6

“⁶ For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives.”

Psalms 50:15

“¹⁵ Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”

Jeremiah 29:11

“¹¹ ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.’”

Trials of faith

Lamentations 3:32

“³² For if He causes grief, then He will have compassion According to His abundant lovingkindness.

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.