

Christmas 2018 - Isaiah 9 - Joy

Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Why is the “FOR” there? - the for refers back to something said previously...In other words these three things exist BECAUSE this child was born -- 3 things Jesus brought because of his birth:

Three things Jesus brought forth because of His Birth “for to us a child is born”

1. LIGHT - He brought light into the world
2. JOY - You have increased their joy
3. FREEDOM - You have shattered the yoke that burdens them

Today - We will talk about Joy

Isa 9:3 You have enlarged the nation [*multiplied them*] and (*kjv NOT) **increased their joy** [*made their joy great*]; **they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.**

- The joy at the birth of this child is compared to **rejoicing in harvest**
- The joy at the birth of this child is compared to **victory in battle**
 - ***[KJV not** - some commentators indicate “*whose joy thou didst not before enlarge*” - which to me makes most sense in the context] - in the past he Humbled in the future he will Honor - vs 1

I Bring You Good Tidings of Great Joy for All People

Luk 2:8-11 ESV ...*[at the birth of Jesus an angel spoke to the shepherds]* 10“Fear not, for behold, I bring you **good news of great joy** that will be for **all the people**. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a **Savior**, who is **Christ the Lord**.

What is the GOOD TIDINGS of GREAT JOY? --- THE SAVIOR, CHRIST the LORD was born

- **Savior** - call him Jesus - He will save us from our sin - Mat 1:21-23
- **Christ** -He is the long awaited Messiah -To deliver, heal & set free - the Anointed One
- **LORD** - Supreme, Controller, God -- He is **Immanuel** “God with Us” - Mat 1:21-23
- He was coming to do something about the condition of the people of this world

This “joy to the world” is forever linked to the person and work of Jesus Christ

- Acts 8:5-8 ESV Philip went down to the city of Samaria and **proclaimed to them the Christ**. (6) And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. (7) For **unclean spirits**, crying out with a loud voice, **came out of many** who had them, and **many who were paralyzed or lame were healed**. (8) ***So there was much joy in that city.***
- Act 16:31-34 ESV ...the Philipian jailer “***rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.***”

The Repentance of ONE PERSON causes Great Joy in heaven

- Luk 15:4-10 ESV "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, **rejoicing**. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, '**Rejoice with me**, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' 7 Just so, I tell you, **there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents** than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. 8 "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? 9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, '**Rejoice with me**, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' 10 Just so, I tell you, there is **joy before the angels of God** over one sinner who repents."
 - not "joy on the part," but "joy [in the presence of the angels] of God.

God is Happy / Joyful

Where He lives is called "the joy of your master"

- Mat 25:21-23 ESV His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. **Enter into the joy of your master.**' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. **Enter into the joy of your master.**'

God rejoices and sings over us with loud singing

- Zephaniah 3:17 ESV The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one **who will save**; **he will rejoice over you with gladness**; he will quiet you by his love; **he will exult over you with loud singing**.

The fruit of the Spirit is JOY

- Gal 5:22-23 ESV But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

My Joy will be in you & Your joy may be full - OBEDIENCE

- Joh 15:10-11 ESV If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, **that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.**

Our joy is full when His Joy is in Us

Harvest can be good or bad from year to year - but if our joy is IN HIM - we are not moved

- Psa 4:6-7 ESV There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!" 7 **You have put more joy** in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

Joy is not dependant upon outcomes - there is something of God or eternity we must grasp

- Hab 3:17-19 ESV Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, 18 **yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.** 19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.

We can have joy in the midst of trials - we can have an eternal perspective

- Jas 1:2 ESV **Count it all joy**, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, KNOWING THIS...
- Luk 6:22-23 ESV "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! 23 **Rejoice** in that day, and **leap for joy**, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

Has the kingdom of heaven captured your attention - what is your source of joy?

Joy -- something has captured your attention so much that you give ALL to obtain it

Mat 13:44 ESV "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then **in his joy he goes and sells** all that he has and buys that field.

- Have you seen the treasure that is called "the kingdom of heaven"?
- Have you JOYFULLY sold all that you have **to buy the field**?
- Rich young ruler got a glimpse of the treasure, but was unwilling to sell out
 - Mar 10:21-22 ESV 21 And **Jesus, looking at him, loved him**, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." 22 **Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.**

SUMMARY

Maybe our JOY needs to be restored?

- Psa 51:12 ESV **Restore to me the joy of your salvation**, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Maybe we're searching for joy in the wrong places - maybe we need eternal perspective

- Luk 10:17-20 ESV The seventy-two returned with **joy**, saying, "**Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!**" 18 And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but **rejoice that your names are written in heaven.**"

Maybe we need to spend a little time in prayer

- Joh 16:22-24 ESV So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. 23 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. 24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. **Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.**

Maybe we need to take another look at obedience

- Joh 15:10-11 ESV If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, **that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.**