

The Joy Of Our Salvation

Text : **Matthew 11: 28-30 ; I Peter 1: 3-9**

A. We live in an era that is dominated by advertising; it's everywhere/thing. S#1.

1. Common thread, most ads demonstrate the positive aspects of using the product.
 - a. The person has a problem, but the product provides a solution.
 - b. Those using the product are shown to be happy ... with big smiles on their faces.
2. They never show anything negative about the product unless required by law.
 - a. Side effects of drugs are minimized and read very quickly.
 - b. The foul taste of the medicine is never mentioned. (*Taken w/ smile*)
 - c. People who did not get a positive result are never revealed.

B. We Christians should take a lesson from advertisers. S#2.

1. Our lives are demonstrating the gospel to the world.
2. The gospel provides great benefits, at no cost, and with no harmful side effects.
3. We should be showcasing the great JOY that it provides.

S#3.

C. We want to quickly observe ten ways the gospel gives JOY as no other source.

I. There is great JOY in learning about God. S#4.

A. Imagine being born in a place where God is not known.

1. There are those who do not know God and they have no hope of Heaven.
II Thes. 1: 7b-9 ... when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, ... S#5.
2. **Romans 1** explains that one can see God in His created world.
 - a. The creation demonstrates a creator, but reveals nothing of His person or will.
 - b. Imagine the frustration of knowing there is a God but being unable to learn of Him

B. The prophets experienced such a frustration; they knew God had a plan, but ...

1. **I Pet. 1: 10-11** As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, **11 seeking to know** what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. S#6.
2. **I Pet. 1: 20** ... God made preparation for salvation through Christ, but told no one.

II. Christians find great JOY in remembering Jesus.**S#7.****A. Each Sunday we gather as a body to remember the love that Jesus has shown us.**

1. **John 5: 13** – Greater love has no one than this, ... lay down his life for his friends. **S#8.**
2. Jesus was born on the earth to be offered as a sacrifice for man's sins. (cf– **Jn 1:29**)
Mark 10: 45 – **For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,**
and to give His life a ransom for many. (cf– **Acts 2: 23**)

S#9.**B. Would be a poor memory if it ended there .. it doesn't .. He arose from the grave.**

1. When He came forth from the grave He proved Himself to be God.
 - a. **Rom. 1: 4** –...declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead .
 - b. Every teaching He taught is true and every promise He made is certain.
2. Jesus was only the “**first born from the dead**” (**Col. 1: 18**) all will rise.
John 5: 28-29 **Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who** **S#10.**
are in the tombs will hear His voice, ²⁹ and will come forth; those
who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who
committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

C. Knowing the future that is ours, how can a Christian not live with a smile. S#11.

1. We should be the most joyful people on earth.
2. ***Our JOY should attract people to Christ like moths to a flame.***

III. There is great JOY in being invited to share salvation.**S#12.****A. We've all been invited to share in the good things of others. (*parties, etc*)****B. Jesus invited us all to share in the good things of salvation.**

1. **Matt. 11: 28-30** **Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will** **S#13.**
give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and 'You will find rest for
your soul.' ³⁰ **For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**
2. Everyone carries the heavy burden of sin, but Jesus offers man relief.
3. Following Christ one accepts a burden, but His burden is light.

IV. There is great JOY in God's forgiveness.**S#14.****A. It's amazing that the sovereign ruler of the universe desires relationship with us.**

1. **Rom. 5** ... explains that our rebellion made us His enemies, deserving of His wrath.
2. When we deserved condemnation, Jesus voluntarily died for us. (**John 10: 17-18**)

B. ILL. – As if preparing for graduation from school, we were each one given a white robe and warned to keep it clean, but we stained it.

** Jesus took our soiled robe gave His pure white robe.*

C. God offers us a second chance if we will accept His Son as our savior.

Rom. 6: 3 – Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, **S#15.**
so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

V. There is great JOY because we are privileged to enter the kingdom of God. S#16.

A. We have problems, but it's still a great privilege to be a citizen of the U.S.A.

1. People all over the world want to come here.
2. We need an army to prevent the hordes of illegals crossing our southern border.

B. Spiritually, we are like those pouring across our borders ... seeking better life.

1. However, there is but one way into the kingdom of God.

John 14: 6 – Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **S#17.**
no one comes to the Father but through Me. (**Matt 7:21-23** no illegals)

2. Jesus Himself places us into His Kingdom.

Col. 1: 18 – For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us **S#18.**
to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

3. No such things as a "green card" in the Kingdom ... we're given citizenship.

Phil. 3: 20 – For our citizenship is in Heaven, from which also we
eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; **!**

VI. There is great JOY in having family relationship with God and His people. S#19.

A. Those who are in Christ are received as God's family.

1. **Rom. 8: 15-16** For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear **S#20.**
again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by
which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" **16** The Spirit Himself testifies
with our spirit that we are children of God,

2. The Christian never approaches God as a stranger, but as family.

B. Thus, when the church comes together it assembles as the family of God.

I Tim. 3: 15 – but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one **S#21.**
ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the
church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

VII. There is great JOY because there is peace in Christ.**S#22.****A. The Christian is reconciled to God meaning there is no conflict.**

1. **Rom. 5: 10** – For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. **S#23.**
2. **Rom. 5: 1** – Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, .

B. Peace with God creates peace within.**S#24.**

1. **Rom 8: 1** – Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
2. **I John 4: 18** – There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. .

C. The result is a feeling beyond man's ability to understand or to describe.

1. **Phil. 4: 7** – And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **S#25.**
2. Old saying, "Better felt than told." *One can't get it any other way.*

VIII. There is great JOY in having one's priorities set.**S#26.****A. Christians don't lead an aimless life reacting to events as they come.**

1. We have direction and purpose in our lives.
2. Christians know what's important.
Matt. 6: 33 – But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. **S#27.**

B. We are Christ's ambassadors. A life with purpose has meaning and fulfillment.

1. Life is easier when we are working toward God's heavenly goal.
2. We know what we what we should be doing ... **only question**, will we do it.

IX. There is great JOY in anticipating the promises of God.**S#28.****A. There is a sense of excitement as a special day approaches.**

1. A young woman counts down the days before her wedding.
2. As Christmas approaches children mark off the days on calendar.

B. Christians live anticipating the JOY we will have when Jesus returns.

1. We long to hear the words spoken by Jesus in a parable of His return.

Matt. 25: 23 – His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. **S#29.**
You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

2. We anticipate receiving our new body which will never grow old or cause pain.

a. **II Cor. 5: 1** – For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn **S#30.**
down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands,
eternal in the heavens. (cf– **I Pet. 1: 3-5**)

b. **I Cor. 15: 54** – But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, **S#31.**
and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “Death is swallowed up in victory.

C. The greatest JOY of the Christian’s life is anticipating his arrival on that shore.

Rev. 21: 3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the **S#32.**
tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,
4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

X. There is great JOY in having God in our lives.**S#33.****A. A life without God has no true purpose.**

1. Everything in this earthly realm will be left behind.
2. This earth will cease to be.

II Pet. 3: 10 – But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens **S#34.**
will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

B. A life centered on people will have little lasting significance.**S#35.**

1. Our spouse is important to our life, but all spouses die.
2. A life centered on children is frustrating when they grow up and are independent.
3. Within one generation most people are forgotten.

C. A life centered on gain is left behind and squandered by those who didn’t earn it.

1. **Prov. 11: 4** – Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, **S#36.**
But righteousness delivers from death.
2. **Luke 16** ... With every blessing comes responsibility and opportunity .. **judgment.**

CONCLUSION :

A. The greatest JOY in life is in our salvation. (Mark 8: 36 ... what profit)

S#37.

**Psa. 35: 9 – And my soul shall rejoice in the Lord;
It shall exult in His salvation.**

B. Meditate on things like these ten reasons to rejoice in God's salvation.

S#38.

1. Confidence in His salvation will fill your heart with joy and peace.
2. This peace and joy will affect your life and put a smile on your face.
3. Then your life will draw others to Christ like moths to a flame.

INVITATION :

Do you know this joy ?

S#39.

Does it guide your life ?

Jesus offers it if you will accept it ?

Faith

Commitment

Confession

Solemnize relationship in baptism

Allow Christ to live in and through you Gal. 2: 20

Lesson Text :**Matthew 11: 28-30**

28 Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. **29** Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and 'You will find rest for your soul.' **30** For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

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** so 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.