

Restoring the Broken
Nehemiah 8
Joy

Vision Courage Perseverance Integrity Distractions Value Joy

Joy

A feeling of great pleasure and _____.

1. _____ **for the Word of God**

Date: October 1, 444

The Feast of Trumpets – Rosh Hashana

The Day of Atonement – Yom Kippur

The Feast of Tabernacles

Ezra

Came to Jerusalem in 458 BC.

He was a Priest and Scribe. Lineage straight to Aaron, the first High Priest.

He was reading from Genesis to Deuteronomy for about _____ hours!

Ezra delivered praise, hope and glory to God from the first five books!

Response? The lifting of hands demonstrated agreement.

Then bowing with faces toward the ground in worship.

2. _____ **Source in the Word**

Conviction Confession _____

Joy of the Lord is your Strength

_____, place of refuge, fortress

Key reason that we struggle with a happy God is that we don't understand theology.

Justification

To justify is to declare one _____.

It doesn't overlook the wrong.

It looks the sin straight on and declares it publicly as to what it is.

It isn't just wrong – but sin.

It isn't just sin but it is unjust.

It isn't just unjust but it is a debt that demands eternal payment.

There on the cross – Jesus suffered and paid the eternal price for our sin.

God changes _____ into righteous people.

It is tragic that many Christians are depressed about their failures and sins, thinking and acting as if God still holds their sins against them.

Is _____ a characteristic of God that would be at the core of who He is?

If you find it difficult to worship a happy God that is full of joy, then you just told me a lot about your spiritual life or the lack thereof.

1 Timothy 1:11

according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted.

The word blessed is the same word that Jesus used in the Sermon on the Mount.

Meaning that you could translate the word as “happy.”

Greek word means – happy.

Joy isn't just something that God gives but it is also who He is!

He gives us what He is – joyful!

He is the source of joy!

“God is so joyous that he finds joy even in us.” Henry Spence

You will never be spiritually _____ than your God is happy. Weirsb

God cannot see you in any other way but judicially righteous, holy, just and acquitted.

You cannot make God love you any more or any less.

You cannot _____ God.

3. Practice of the Word

The Feast of Tabernacles

When you find your strength in the Joy of God, it is easier to follow His _____ and live this life without a tight grip.

Application:

1. Do you have a passion for the Word? Many don't because they see it as a book of code and regulation and not relationship.
2. Do you have a God who finds joy in you?
3. How tight are you holding on to someone, something or a belief that you have no control over?

Hab. 3:17,18

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Joy

Joy of the Lord

Joy of the Lord is my stronghold, place of refuge and my fortress.

Live this week with joy.