

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - JOY

LESSON 2

I. THE NEW TESTAMENT IS A BOOK OF JOY

- A. The Greek word CHAREIN, translated "REJOICE" occurs over seventy times; CHARA, translated "JOY" occurs sixty times.
- B. Used as "Greetings" in letters (Acts 23:26, 15:23, Jms.1:1).
- C. Ushers in the good news and is to continue (Lk.1:28, 2:10, Matt.28:9, Lk.24:52, Jn.15:11, 2 Cor.13:11).

II. JOY IN RECEIVING THE GOSPEL

- A. Receiving forgiveness and other attendant blessings (Acts 8:8, 39, 13:48).

III. JOY ALWAYS A CONSTANT IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN

- A. Command (Phil. 3:1, 4:4, I Thess.5:16).
- B. A necessary characteristic of the kingdom (Rom.14:17).

IV. JOY OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

- A. Comfort of love (Philm.7, Phil.4:10).
- B. Restoring fellowship (2 Cor. 7:7, 13, 2 Jn. 12).

V. JOY IN DISCIPLINE AND TESTING

- A. Rejoicing in suffering for the ultimate cause (Acts 5:41, 13:52, IPet.4:13, Col.1:24).
- B. Rejoicing in the development of a stronger and more godly character (Jms.1:2-4, Rom.5:3-5, I Thess. 1:6, 2 Cor. 6:10).

VI. JOY IN THE PROGRESS OF GOSPEL IN LIVES OF PEOPLE

- A. Rejoicing in people standing fast in the truth (Col. 2:5, 3Jn. 4. I Thess. 3:8-9).
- B. Rejoicing in people believing and progressing in the faith (Rom. 15:13, Phil. 1:25).

VII. JOY IN THE END OVER PEOPLE BROUGHT TO CHRIST

- A. Our joy and crown (Phil.4:1, I Thess.2:19,20).
- B. Profitable spiritual leaders (Heb.13:17).

QUESTIONS:

1. Why can we accurately describe the New Testament as a book of "joy"?
2. Why did people of the New Testament rejoice when they received the gospel?
3. The Christian is to rejoice _____ .
4. In Romans 14, what destroys joy in the Kingdom of God?
5. What causes the Christian to rejoice in his fellowship with his fellow Christians?
6. What all must be kept in mind in order to rejoice in our sufferings?
7. How can we as a church cause other faithful Christians in other areas to rejoice?
8. What will cause the Christian who has spent a life time trying to save souls to rejoice in the judgment?
9. How can we help elders of the church to have joy in the judgment?
10. What spiritual thoughts did you dwell upon that produced joy in your life this week?

11. What actions did you manifest this week that produced joy in others this week?