



## Joy is:

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## Definitions of "Joy"

### **Concise Oxford English Dictionary:**

Noun: a feeling of great pleasure and happiness.  
 Verb: literary rejoice.

### **Dictionary of Bible Themes #8287:**

(joy, and human experience)

Joy is experienced naturally in many circumstances of life & in human relationships. It is especially important in the life of God's people, who experience joy in response to all that God has done for them.

### **Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary:**

The emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires.  
 A state of happiness or felicity; A source or cause of delight.

### **Urban Dictionary definition #3:**

One of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. A visible attribute of a true Christian life as found in Galatians 5:22-23.

Joy is not a human-based happiness that comes and goes, rather, true joy is divine in its origin. It is a Spirit-given expression that flourishes best in hard times.

### **Nehemiah 8:10b (CSB)**

"Do not grieve, because the joy of the Lord is your strength."

### **Romans 14:17 (CSB)**

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

*"Joy is not necessarily the absence of suffering, it is the presence of God." – Sam Storms*

### **Hebrews 12:1–2 (CSB)**

Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, <sup>2</sup>keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **John 15:9–17 (CSB)**

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn't know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is what I command you: Love one another."

*"The Lord gives His people perpetual joy when they walk in obedience to him." – Dwight L. Moody*