

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: JOY

JOY is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. It has its beginnings in God and is produced by Faith. It is based on the reality of God and His promises. JOY is not to be confused with happiness which is dependent upon favorable circumstances to sustain it.

The source of JOY must be the Lord. We are to share in the JOY of Christ by a daily walk with Him and a daily practice of rejoicing in the knowledge of Him and His salvation. Unlike worldly happiness, JOY often comes after great affliction and sufferings. JOY is the feeling Jesus had when he suffered for mankind.

look for JOY in -

- persons who in the midst of difficulty have a cheerful, peaceful spirit.
- persons who are "happy in the Lord"
- persons who get excited when they talk about the things of God
- persons who are looking forward to being with the Lord and sharing eternal JOY
- persons who love sharing the Gospel and enthusiastic about the salvation of souls
- persons who demonstrate JOY in their singing, praying, testimony, preaching, teaching, with musical instruments, praise and in their daily walk.

Read: Nehemiah 8:1; Psalm 16:11; Psalm 35:9; Psalm 66:1,2; Isaiah 29:19; 16:24, I Peter 1:3-8.

Remember to look for and acknowledge the signs of JOY within yourself.

### WARNING

Watch for the enemy of JOY - worldly sorrow which, if allowed, will try to destroy your JOY.

Additional Scriptures:

Isaiah 12:1-6, Acts 2:28, Romans 14:17, Romans 15:13, Jude 1:24,25, Hebrews 1:9, Hebrews 12:2, 2 Corinthians 8:1-4