

Romans #163

“Joyful in Hope”

*Romans 12:12*

**Mature believers in Christ are joyful and hopeful.**

To be joyful is to be happy and that is related to the essence or character of God.

*And God's also happy with His perfect plan of grace and so, grace is the expression of His joy.*

And grace is the source of our joy or happiness, acquired through processing biblical truth under the filling of the Holy Spirit.

**Temporary joy is the opposite of God's permanent joy and in devil's world, his joy is short-lived and superficial depending on pleasant environment, stimulating circumstances, having our own way and never being challenged.**

Inner joy has capacity for a thriving relationship with God and for life itself.

*This joy sustains in the most difficult circumstances in life; it can pass the adversity as well as the prosperity test.*

The Word of God builds joy which stimulates desire for more of the Word which builds more joy.

**Joy in its fullest extent is the most pleasure we're capable of enjoying and no one can exceed their own capacity.**

Joy is related to the essence of a perfect, eternal, unchanging, just, righteous, fair, loving, omnipotent God who has the eternal ability to be joyful and to share it by the principle of grace.

*It is impossible for God to be unhappy.*

Joy is accomplished through grace where the believer transfers biblical truth from the written page of Scripture into his soul, so being saved doesn't mean instant joy.

*Three human joys not related to God's joy: the temporary joy of sin, joy from observing God's established laws for unbelievers and the joy of pleasure in details of life that is fleeting and a source of future unhappiness.*

**To thrive today, we must have a philosophy that looks forward to something better in eternity.**

We must have a personal sense of destiny about the future, as we know that God decides the time, manner, and place of our death and at the moment of our death, we enter in a place of no more sorrow, tears or pain and we'll stay in the presence of God forever!

*If you have good expectation, it's because you know your future as a believer and that projection gives you a fantastic edge on problem solving.*

Biblical hope projects its own view of the future with confidence, so we can have absolute expectation not based on possible circumstances but on an unwavering God.

When we have any sorrow, we can project all the fantastic things we have coming in the future and that brings us back into present with confidence and strength.