

Joy – Pt 1 Joy, rejoicing and gladness take place in the heart.

This is our first study on the topic of “Joy”. We establish that (1) joy is linked to gladness of heart, (2) Joy is linked to rejoicing, and (3) Joy, rejoicing and gladness all take place in the heart.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Joy is linked to gladness of heart.

“Because thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things” (Deut.28: 47).

See also – 1 Kg.8: 66, Est.8: 16 & 17, Ps.32:11 and 1 Pet.4: 13,

Note – The Greek word for exceeding joy is the same word for exceeding glad,

2. Joy is linked to rejoicing.

“And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them” (1 Kg.1: 40).

See also– Ecc.2: 19, 1 Chr.29: 9, 2 Chr.20: 27, Neh.12: 43, Ps.5: 11 and Hab.3: 18.

Note – Just as joy is linked with rejoicing so is glad linked with rejoice – Ps.96: 11.

3. Joy, rejoicing and gladness are all of the heart.

“And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour” (Ecc.2: 10).

Our joy, our gladness of heart – is in the Lord’s goodness that He has done (1 Kg.8: 66 and Ps.35: 27).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

When Moses died the children of Israel wept and mourned for thirty days and then the period of their sorrow and grief ended – Deut.34: 8. When a parent loses a child they are often not able to be comforted (Matt.2: 18).

Question to think about.

Two opposites for joy are “sorrow” (Est.9: 22, and Job 31: 22) and “grief” (Heb.13: 17), so when a believer goes through tribulations and experiences these feelings, how do they exhibit joy, rejoicing and gladness of heart?

Our answer from the scriptures.

The proving of a person’s faith takes many forms, but when a Christian experiences feelings of grief and sorrow they can only feel joy, gladness of heart and rejoicing through their Heavenly Father who is the source of their joy, “the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost” (Rom 15:13).

And the Holy Spirit of God – bears fruit of the Spirit in a person born of the Spirit – and that fruit is made up of “joy” (Gal 5:22). Paul said “I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation” (2 Cor.7: 4). Whereas, a believer that has fallen away, or one in name only and has hardened their heart – they are unable to exhibit joy, rejoicing, or gladness of heart through tribulation – because each of these stem from the heart. Joy is linked to rejoicing and gladness, and each of these take place in our heart.