

“More than Conquerors – Fight for Joy”

Pastor Bill Schlonecker – April 9, 2017

Joy shows up where you least expect it – in the middle of _____

“I will take _____ in the God of my salvation” (Hab 3:17)

“Count it all _____” (James 1:2)

“In this you _____” (1 Peter 1:6)

The Bible does not call us to do in our own _____ what is _____; but rather, calls us to do in _____ strength what is _____

The Christian life – to follow Christ – is not a _____ life; it is an _____ life, apart from God’s forgiving grace and enabling power!

Do not settle for _____ when you can experience _____
Happiness is dependent upon _____ of your life
Joy is rooted in something _____, more stable

1-Joy is rooted in knowing God has good _____ even in our suffering

...To produce _____ / godliness – James 1:2-4

...To put your _____ on display as God brings it to perfect completion

2-Joy is rooted in _____ – Romans 15:13 – “May the God of hope fill you with all joy...”

We sow _____; but we will reap _____

3-Joy is rooted in Jesus Christ, specifically in _____ and _____ Him, the author and finisher of our salvation – 1

Peter 1:8

To love Him is to _____ Him above all others

To trust Him is to _____ on Him for all that we need

To rejoice in Him – to choose joy -- >

Settled assurance that God is in _____...quiet confidence that
He ultimately will make all things _____...choice to make
Him the _____ of all we need

Several take-aways...

...Joy and sorrow are not “either / or” but “both / and”

...Joy is not a _____ born out of circumstances;
Joy is a _____ born out of faith

...Joy is cultivated in our hearts by the _____
“Your words became to me a joy” (Jer. 15:16)
“The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart”
(Psalm 19:8)

...Our fight for joy ended when Christ _____ and _____ our
joy at the cross – Psalm 118:24

B/c Jesus fought and won the battle for our joy on the cross, we
rejoice not only in that day, but are able to rejoice in every “today”
of our lives

_____ lives in us – always...unquenchable!

Psalm 4:7 – “You have put more _____ in my heart.”

Nehemiah 8:10 – “The joy of the LORD is my _____.”

“We can hug our hurts and make a shrine out of our sorrows or we
can offer them to God as a sacrifice of praise.” ~ Richard Exley