

Morsels of Manna

Week of June 9, 2013

We Live From A Place Of Victory!

By Wanda Wilkins

We have God's attributes in us because He is in us! His life is in us! One very powerful attribute of His is His Joy! There's something so powerful about God's joy that anyone who experiences it will not stay the same! It bears with it a sweet and gentle temper! (You need this!) You can get so full of God's joy that you become "drunk in the Spirit." If you have ever experienced it, you know what I am talking about! Well, God, our Heavenly Father, wants us to **stay** full of His joy! I found out in going through rough times that this joy can be stirred up! Glory to God! We don't have to wait for God to pour it out on us. We can stir it up by doing what His Word says and that is to "Rejoice!" Even when our natural hearts want to be sorrowful or heavy, God says to rejoice! The devil can't keep a good man down, not when he's operating under God's principles! God's joy is so powerful that it can change the outcome of any blow from the enemy! **Ha!**

It is God's oil of joy and when we stir it up, there's nothing the enemy can do to stop it! It becomes a mighty, moving force, giving us strength and victory! In fact, the enemy (satan) is afraid of our rejoicing because the dart he threw was supposed to devastate us and cause us to turn away from God! But God says to laugh at your enemy, mock at him by rejoicing! It confuses him! Not only that, we draw closer to God when we rejoice and God draws closer to us!

A word to the children of Israel in the book of Nehemiah, when their hearts were so sorrowful was "do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!" Joy is in the presence of God! Our God is full of joy! There is no sorrow in Him and He wants His children to stay full of joy! The power of this joy has become more real to my husband and me in recent months that I am so grateful to God for its power! Do not be dismayed, or despondent because of your enemy but **REJOICE** in the God of Hope and allow Him to move you to your next wealthy place in Him! He, your Maker, has a plan for you and He will not fail!

Look at this note on "**Strength**" – "Rejoicing in God in serving him with cheerfulness, and thankfulness, which is your duty always, but now especially, will give you that strength both of mind and body, which you greatly need, both to perform all the duties required of you, and to oppose all the designs of your enemies." (Wesley Notes on the Bible)

WOW!!! Have you ever seen a little child expecting something good? That child is full of joy, excited, happy, jumping up and down and even with laughter. That joy is the result of hope (a confident expectation of something good)! That's the kind of joy and excitement

we must keep in our hearts! It pleases our Heavenly Father when we are full of joy and excitement! Why? Because it is the result of our confidently expecting good to come, being fully convinced, fully assured, and it moves us closer to the manifestation of the object of our hope! Our hope truly is like a rope and if we won't let go of it, it will reel in for us exactly what we are confidently expecting! "Hope deferred makes the heart sick" but "Joy does good like a medicine."

"Rejoice in the Lord always and again, I say rejoice!" says Paul in Philippians 4:4, and in 2 Corinthians 6:10, he tells us he rejoiced even while sorrowful. There is always a reason for rejoicing in Christ, even in times of affliction, distress, and persecution. Our Lord is the same, yesterday, today and forever! His grace is always sufficient. His blood has a continual cleansing power and always speaks loud His mercy and forgiveness. His righteousness is an everlasting one. His salvation and His love are forever! In His presence, we are surrounded by His joy and surely, His pleasures are forevermore! How can we lose? We can't!!!

Well, how do we get this joy to surround us in the natural realm? If you have received Christ as your Lord and Savior, not only are you seated in Heavenly Places with Him, but also the glory of His Kingdom is within you, righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit! I believe the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6 still has significance in our lives as believers in that we should crave and pray for a manifestation of the glory of His Kingdom in our lives on a daily basis! If you love His presence, you'll want more of it! Stir up His joy by rejoicing in Him, singing and making melody in your heart! Keep rejoicing! Keep asking for more, more of His presence! Keep seeking Him and let His glory manifest in your life! He's not mad at you! If He's in your heart, so is His JOY! Get up from there and stir up this joy! Confidently expect God to move in your life!

Say out loud, "I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior!"

Living from a place of victory!

Wanda Wilkins

Scripture Ref: Ps. 16:11, Ps. 2:4, James 4:8, Isaiah 61:3, Ps. 66:12, 2 Chron. 20:22, Neh. 8:10 (ESV); Luke 17:21, Rom. 14:17, Rom. 5:2, Phil. 3:1, Hab. 3:18, Is. 45:17, Heb. 13:8, Prov. 13:4, Prov. 17:22.