

Make Room



Make Room

for Joy



“Joy . . . is the gigantic secret of the
Christian.”

G. K. Chesterton

A Review and Connections

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- Hope is ultimately about the future.

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- Hope is ultimately about the future.
 - It bridges the gap between here and now and then and there.
 - It carries us over from how things are to how they will be.

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- Hope is ultimately about the future.
- Peace is ultimately about now

A Review and Connections

- Hope is ultimately about the future.
- Peace is ultimately about now
 - It is found when we are where we are supposed to be, which is close to God.
 - Peaceful people are those who live close to God, and who are content with/in God

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- Peace is ultimately about now
- Joy is ultimately about the past

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A Review and Connections

- Where peace is connected to contentment in that God is enough,

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- Where peace is connected to contentment in that God is enough,
- “Joy is an act of adoration “because it bears witness to the fact that God, who belongs to us, *is everything to us.*” – Dom Paul Delatte

A Review and Connections

- Jurgен Moltmann's two perspectives

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- Jurgen Moltmann's two perspectives
 - Anxiety is anticipated terror

A Review and Connections

- Jurgen Moltmann's two perspectives
 - Anxiety is anticipated terror
 - Hope is anticipated joy

What is JOY?

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- Joy is a response to have been united with what we love. - Thomas Aquinas

Joy: Biblical Perspective

- Something has happened (that people were waiting for or needed to happen) that has the result of a whole new world opening up or coming forth.

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- Something has happened (that people were waiting for or needed to happen) that has the result of a whole new world opening up or coming forth.
- Celebration of the power and victory of Israel's God

Joy: Biblical Perspective

- Ex. 15 Miriam's song

Joy: Biblical Perspective

- Ex. 15 Miriam's song
- 2 Sam. 5 and 6 – David before the Ark

JOY

- Joy is the energy of gratitude
- Joy in the Lord is worship

Luke 1

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⁶⁷ His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

⁶⁸ “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Luke 1

⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for
us in the house of his servant David
⁷⁰ (as he said through his holy prophets of
long ago),

Luke 1

⁷¹ salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us—
⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors
and to remember his holy covenant,
⁷³ the oath he swore to our father
Abraham:

Luke 1

- ⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve him without
fear
- ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him
all our days.

Luke 1

⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet
of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to
prepare the way for him,
⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of
salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,

Luke 1

⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us
from heaven

⁷⁹ to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

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- Joy and Suffering are not opposites

“It is noteworthy how often in the New Testament joy and affliction go together.”

“Christian joy seems to flourish and grow upon what might seem the least favorable soil.”

- Sister Mary David

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- Joy and Suffering are not opposites
- Joy is contagious

Contagious JOY

“Christians ought to be celebrating constantly. We ought to be preoccupied with parties, banquets, feasts, and merriment. We ought to give ourselves over to [never ending] joy because we have been liberated from the fear of life and the fear of death. We ought to attract people to the church quite literally by the fun there is in being a Christian.”

Robert Hotchkins

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- Joy and Suffering are not opposites
- Joy is contagious
 - Pure Heart
 - Clean Hands
 - Cheerful Countenance

Deficient JOY?

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- Pray

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- Understand that you are loved

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 - Be with the Lord: the presence of Jesus awakens JOY

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- Pray
- Understand that you are loved
- Renunciation (again)

Rule of St. Benedict

“Let each one, over and above the measure prescribed for him, offer God something of his own will in the joy of the Holy Spirit. That is to say, let him stint himself of food, drink, sleep, talk and jesting, and look forward with the joy of spiritual longing to the holy feast of Easter.”

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- Renunciation (again)
- If Joy is contagious, how infected are you?

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