<u>"JOY IN THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS"</u> <u>PHILIPIANS 1:4;1:25;2:2;2:17;2:18;4:1</u>

<u>INTRO</u>: There is a GOSPEL CHORUS we sing from time to time entitled: "IF YOU WANT JOY, REAL JOY" that says:

"IF YOU WANT JOY, REAL JOY, WONDERFUL JOY, LET JESUS COME INTO YOUR HEART.
IF YOU WANT JOY, REAL JOY, WONDERFUL JOY, LET JESUS COME INTO YOUR HEART.
YOUR SINS HE'LL WASH AWAY. YOUR NIGHT HE'LL TURN TO DAY, YOUR LIFE HE'LL MAKE IT OVER
ANEW.

"IF YOU WANT JOY, REAL JOY, WONDERFUL JOY, LET JESUS COME INTO YOUR HEART."

<u>THAT IS A BLESSED SONG THAT EXPRESSES A CONCEPT THAT ONLY TRUE CHRISTIANS CAN</u>

<u>EXPRESS.</u>

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT JOY:

- 1) Joy is the BASIC CHARACTERISTIC OF THE TRUE CHRISTIAN
 - -John 15:16; 16:24; 1 Peter 1:8
- 2) Joy in the TRUE CHRISTIAN rises above CIRCUMSTANCES and FOCUSES on the VERY CHARACTER OF GOD
 - -Psalm 21:1; 31:7
- 3) Joy is the PROVISION of the Holy Spirit
 - -Galatians 5:22
- 4) Joy looks BEYOND the PRESENT circumstance to the FUTURE God has for every Christian.
 - -Romans 5:2
- 5) Joy is a PRESENT EXPERIENCE even in the DEPTH OF SORROW
 - -2 Corinthians 6:10

THE BIBLICAL TEACHING OF JOY:

I. THE BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF JOY

• JOY IS THE INNER CONTENTMENT AND SATISFACTION PRODUCED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF THE BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN THAT ANTICIPATES A POSITIVE FUTURE NO MATTER WHAT THE CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCE MAY BE.

II. THE BIBLICAL CAUSE OF JOY

- The Salvation of the Lord Isaiah 12:3
- The Lord Jesus Christ John 15:11; 17:13
- The Word of God Jeremiah 15:16
- The Filling of the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:22

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III. THE BIBLICAL CONSEQUENCE OF JOY

- The Strength of God Nehemiah 8:10

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

- -BIBLICAL JOY IS PRECIOUS, BUT CAN BE LOST DUE TO SIN -PSALM 51:4.8
- -BIBLICAL JOY CAN BE RESTORED THROUGH CONFESSION OF SIN PSALM 51:3,4,12