

The Joy Of Christmas

The Third Sunday of Advent

Rejoice In The Lord

- ⌘ Luke 2:10 - Good news of GREAT Joy - A Saviour is Born!
- ⌘ There can be no Joy where there is fear
- ⌘ What was He born to save us from?
- ⌘ What makes you Sad?
- ⌘ What makes you Happy or Joyfilled?
- ⌘ The chief end of man is to glorify God BY enjoying Him forever!

God Commands Joyfulness

- ⌘ Phil.4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS, I will say it again, Rejoice! The Lord is near.
- ⌘ Ps.37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart!
- ⌘ James 1:2 - Count it all joy when you meet trials of various kinds Not fear

God Offers Joy

- ⌘ Ps.16:11 - Joy and Pleasures
- ⌘ Ps.34:8 - Taste and see the Lord is good
- ⌘ Ps.119:103 - How sweet are your words

Joy Is A Response

- ⌘ Duty does not bring Joy in work, relationships or marriage.
- ⌘ Joy comes from making others joyful
 - × Heb.12:2 – who for the joy set before Him endured the cross
- ⌘ Praise is the overflow of a joy filled heart
- ⌘ God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him

Five Convictions

1. The longing to be happy is a universal experience, and it is good, not sinful
2. We should never deny or resist our longing to be happy, as though it were a bad impulse. Instead, we should seek to intensify this longing and nourish it with whatever will provide the deepest and most enduring satisfaction.

Five Convictions

3. The deepest and most enduring satisfaction is found only in God. Not from God, but in God.
4. The happiness we find in God reaches its consummation when it is shared with others in the manifold ways of love.

Five Convictions

5. To the extent that we try to abandon the pursuit of our own pleasures, we fail to honor God and love people. Or to put it positively: The pursuit of pleasure is a necessary part of all worship and virtue. That is:

The chief end of man is to glorify God

BY

enjoying Him forever.