

Be Joyful

In the Bible we are instructed to rejoice.

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. (Philippians 4:4)

Rejoice evermore. (1Thessalonians 5:16)

Remember our story of Jehoshaphat and his army in our lesson on being still and knowing that God is God?

Jehoshaphat's trust was in the Lord to deliver. 2 Chron.20:12

2 Chron. 20:21,22,27 Singing praises...joy...rejoicing...because of the Lord's mercy and power.

Jethro rejoiced in God's goodness when he heard of all the wonderful things God had done. Exodus 18:8,9

David and Habbakuk rejoiced in the Lord.

The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! (Psa 21:1)

And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation. (Psa 35:9)

Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and their wine increased. (Psa 4:7)

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength... (Habbakuk 3:17,18,19a)

Joy comes when the Lord gets first place. J-Jesus, O-others, Y-you.

The Ark of the Covenant – See Exodus 25:10-22

Led by the ark in the wilderness (Num 10:33-36) and in crossing the Jordan River (Josh 3:14-17;4:18).

The Ark was taken from Shiloh and was captured by the Philistines, and when things went bad for them, they sent it back to Kirjathjearim where it remained for 20 years. (1 Samuel 3-7:2)

1 Chron.13:1-4 – David and the people decided that they should bring the ark of God back to his city.

v.7-10 – Playing instruments and singing but no joy or gladness mentioned.

1 Chron. 15:1-3 – David must have done his homework.

v.11-16 – They transported the ark the way that God wanted them to.

v.25-28 – Singing and playing with joy.

Doing things God's way brings blessing and joy and we can rejoice in the Lord.

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. (Psalm 5:11)