

“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people!” (Luke 2:10)

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11)

“Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” -1 Peter 1:8-9

Joy is an inner peace and rest— rooted in Jesus— that results in a life of thankfulness and expectancy.

1. Joy can be secure in all circumstances.

**Contingent happiness turns us into wounded people of the world.
Courageous joy molds us into resilient people of God.**

“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” -John 16:33

“You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.” -John 16:20

“Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.” -Acts 5:41

“Every morning and all hours on account of the goodness of God toward them, they render praise and laud Him over their food and their drink; they render Him thanks. And if any righteous person of their number passes away from this world, they rejoice and give thanks to God and they follow his body as though he were moving from one place to another. And when a child is born to them, they praise God, and if again it chances to die in its infancy, they praise God mightily, as for one who has passed through the world without sins.” -Aristides

2. Joy can be shared because Jesus has come.

“When joy is a habit, loving people is a reflex!” -Bob Goff

3. Joy can be trusted because Jesus will return.

“obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” (vs. 9)

“The advent season is a season of waiting, but our whole life is an advent season, that is, a season of waiting for the last advent, for the time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth.” -Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” -2 Corinthians 4:16-18

“The way I think, the way I see life. And, yes, [the accident] improved my life actually... I know there is a God, and there is a God beside me. I know he has a great purpose for me.” -Harrison Okene

“Christmas will never be, for us, good news of great joy unless it is good news every day of the year. The mystery of the incarnation is that the eternal one was born, that the Creator came into the world through one of his creatures, that the Ancient of Days walked among us in the fullness of time.” -Kevin DeYoung

God isn't revealing Himself to you just so you can believe that He exists. He's revealing Himself to you so you can find your highest meaning and joy in a personal relationship with Him!