

Sukkot

“You shall celebrate the Feast of Booths seven days...

...**because** the **LORD your God will bless you**
in all your **produce** and all the **work of your hands**,
so that **you** shall be altogether joyful.”
(Deuteronomy 16:13, 15)

God would have us be *Joyful* {Selected Verses}

Then **Nehemiah**, who was the **governor**, and **Ezra** the **priest and scribe**,
and the **Levites** who **taught** the **people** said to all the people,

“This day is **holy** to the **LORD your God**; do not **mourn** or **weep.**”
For all the people were **weeping** when they heard the words of **the law**.

Then he said to them, “Go, **eat** of the **fat**, **drink** of the **sweet**,
and **send portions** to him who has **nothing prepared**;
for this day is **holy** to our **Lord**.

Do not be **grieved**, for the joy of the **LORD** is your strength.”
(Nehemiah 8:9-10)

The **hope** of the **righteous** is gladness,
But the **expectation** of the **wicked** perishes.

A joyful heart is good medicine,
But a **broken spirit** **dries up** the **bones**.
(Proverbs 10:28, 17:22)

Sing praise to the **LORD**, you **His godly ones**,
And **give thanks** to **His holy name**.

For **His anger** is but for a **moment**,
His favor is for a **lifetime**;

Weeping may last for **the night**,
But a shout of joy comes in **the morning**.
(Psalm 30:4-5)

Restore our **captivity**, **O LORD**,

As the **streams** in the **South**.

Those who **sow in tears** shall **reap** with **joyful shouting**.
He who goes to and fro **weeping**, carrying *his bag of seed*,
Shall indeed **come again** with a **shout of joy**,
bringing his **sheaves** *with him*.
(Psalm 126:4-6)

Though the **fig tree** should **not blossom**
And there be **no fruit** on the **vines**,

Though the **yield** of the **olive** should **fail**
And the **fields produce no food**,

Though the **flock** should be **cut off** from the **fold**
And there be **no cattle** in the **stalls**,

Yet I will **exult** in the **LORD**,
I will **rejoice** in the **God** of my **salvation**.
The **Lord GOD** is my **strength**,

And **He** has made **my feet** like **hinds' feet**,
And makes **me walk** on my **high places**.
(Habakkuk 3:17-19)

I will **rejoice greatly** in the **LORD**, My **soul** will **exult** in my **God**;
For **He** has **clothed me** with **garments of salvation**,
He has **wrapped me** with a **robe of righteousness**,
As a **bridegroom** decks himself with a **garland**,
And as a **bride** adorns herself with her **jewels**.
(Isaiah 61:10)

And the **ransomed** of the **LORD** will **return**
And come with **joyful shouting** to **Zion**,
With **everlasting joy** upon their **heads**.
They will find **gladness** and **joy**,
And **sorrow** and **sighing** will **flee away**.
(Isaiah 35:10)

When **my anxious thoughts multiply** within me,
Your consolations delight my **soul**.
(Psalm 94:19)

I have **inherited Your testimonies** forever,
For they are the **joy** of my **heart**.
(Psalm 119:11)

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love;..

rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation,
devoted to prayer,..

Rejoice with those who rejoice,
and weep with those who weep
(Romans 12:10a, 12, 15)

Instruct those who are *rich* in this present world
not to be **conceited**
or to fix their *hope* on the *uncertainty* of riches,
but on God, who richly supplies us with *all things* to enjoy.
(I Timothy 6:17)

Therefore, since we have so great a **cloud of witnesses**
surrounding us, let us also **lay aside** every **encumbrance**
and the **sin** which so easily *entangles us*,
and let us **run with endurance** the **race** that is **set before us**,

fixing our **eyes on Jesus**, the *author* and *perfecter* of faith,
who for the joy set before Him **endured** the **cross**, despising the **shame**,
and has **sat down** at the right hand of the **throne of God**.

For consider Him who has *endured*
such **hostility** by **sinners against Himself**,
so that **you will not** grow **weary** and **lose heart**.
(Hebrews 12:1-3)

Now may the **God of hope**
fill you with all joy and **peace** in **believing**,
so that you will **abound in hope**
by the **power** of the **Holy Spirit**.
(Romans 15:13)

His lord said to him (his servant),
'**Well done, good and faithful servant;**
you were faithful over a few things,
I will make you ruler over many things.
Enter into the **joy of your lord.**'
(Parable of the Talents, Matthew 25:21)

Closing Comments