

ABOUNDING JOY

I John 1:4

Real joy comes through Jesus Christ and a relationship with Him.

Let's look at what John reveals about abounding joy.

I. THE REALITY OF JOY (1:4)

A. A WRITTEN RECORD

- "These things we write ..."

B. A SHARED DELIGHT

- "Our joy ..."

C. AN OVERFLOWING ABUNDANCE

- "Our joy may be made complete."

1. It's essence: Overflowing
2. It's eternity: Forever

D. SUMMARY:

- The reality of our joy is that we have a written guarantee of mutual joy that will overflow forever.

II. THE REASONS FOR JOY

A. CHRIST'S WORK

1. Incarnation (1:1-3)
2. Forgiveness (1:5-10)
 - a. Jesus' blood cleanses us (7)
 - b. Christ's faithfulness keeps us (9)
3. Defense (2:1-2)
 - a. Christ's position (1)
 - Standing before God's judgment bar with us
 - b. Christ's propitiation (2)
 - Satisfying the wrath of God for us

B. THE CHRISTIAN'S EXPERIENCE

1. Assurance: "By this we know" (2:3)
 - a. Through obedience (2:3-5)
 - b. Through service (3:17-19)
 - c. Through Spirit indwelling (3:24 and 4:13)
 - d. Through faith (5:11-13)
2. Victory: "Overcoming"
 - a. Overcoming the evil one (2:13-14)
 - b. Overcoming the spirit of antichrist (4:2-4)
 - c. Overcoming the world (5:4)
3. Anointing: "An anointing from the Holy One"
 - a. Discernment provided (2:18-21)
 - b. Truth given (2:26-27)
4. Answered Prayer: "Whatever we ask we receive from Him"
 - a. Confidence in prayer (3:21-22)
 - b. Confidence in right requests (5:14-15)

C. SUMMARY:

- Because of Christ's work and the Christian's experience we have many reasons for joy!

CONCLUSION:

How has God worked in your life?

- Has it resulted in an abounding joy?

Do you truly have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in your heart?

- Is it the real and abounding kind that will never depart?

LET US PRAISE OUR SAVIOR FOR ABOUNDING JOY.

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