

WOC INTERNATIONAL

Sukkot 2, 5781 - Oct 9, 2020

Review - For those new to the faith or unfamiliar with the Father's festivals

Festivals are 7 divinely appointed "set apart" times aka [mo'eds] that belong to Yahweh

Where He gathers His children to worship Him, fellowship with brethren & receive instruction

Lev 23:1-3 "Adonai said to Moshe, 2 "Tell the people of Isra'el: 'The designated times of Adonai which you are to proclaim as holy convocations are my designated times. 3 "Work is to be done on six days; but the seventh day is a Shabbat of complete rest, a holy convocation; you are not to do any kind of work; it is a Shabbat for Adonai, even in your homes." CJB

He is the source; He sets the times; He gives them meaning and He is their ultimate Object

Why are we here today? - To properly close out Sukkot & prepare to plant seed for next season

And receive blessings for our obedience, as we rejoice along the way in our deliverance

Deut 16:15 "Seven days you are to keep the festival for Adonai your God in the place Adonai your God will choose, because Adonai your God will bless you in all your crops and in all your work, so you are to be full of joy!"

Introduction

What are some differences between joy (spiritual) & happiness? - Location, origin and focus

Spiritual joy resides in the spirit and is the fruit of _____ great (the Spirit)

Happiness resides in the soul and is a reaction to _____ great (Meg Bucher)

Gal 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 humility, self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things." CJB

Joy's focus is always on God's person and/or administrations (e.g. ordinances, promises, etc.)

1 Thess 5:16-18 "Always be joyful. 17 Pray regularly. 18 In everything give thanks, for this is what God wants from you who are united with the Messiah Yeshua." CJB

What should we realize about the nature of spiritual joy?

Joy is not some cheerfulness many mistakenly believe (some people are naturally this way)

It is a spiritual fruit that _____ empowers us to say in the worst of times

Hab 3:17-18 "For even if the fig tree doesn't blossom, and no fruit is on the vines, even if the olive tree fails to produce, and the fields yield no food at all, even if the sheep vanish from the sheep pen, and there are no cows in the stalls; 18 still, I will rejoice in Adonai, I will take joy in the God of my salvation." CJB

Spiritual joy births the courage, outlook, & contentment to be fruitful in your Kingdom walk

Ps 28:7 "Adonai is my strength and shield; in him my heart trusted, and I have been helped. Therefore my heart is filled with joy, and I will sing praises to him." CJB

Joy births a courage that views spiritual discipline as essential spiritual _____

Enabling discipline to produce the peaceful fruit of righteousness in us

Heb 12:11 "Now, all discipline, while it is happening, does indeed seem painful, not enjoyable; but for those who have been trained by it, it later produces its peaceful fruit, which is righteousness." CJB

Notes

Joy births an outlook that considers obedience to divine command _____

Enabling obedience to be the foundation to enduring heart wrenching situations

Heb 12:2 “looking away to the Initiator and Completer of that trusting, Yeshua – who, in exchange for obtaining the joy set before him, endured execution on a stake as a criminal, scorning the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” CJB

Joy births a _____ that lets patience be the fulfiller of divine promises

Enabling this persistence to march us towards the realization of unseen promises

Jer 29:11-14 “For I know what plans I have in mind for you,’ says Adonai, ‘plans for well-being, not for bad things; so that you can have hope and a future. 12 When you call to me and pray to me, I will listen to you. 13 When you seek me, you will find me, provided you seek for me wholeheartedly;” CJB

Notes

What mistake do many make when they believe spiritual joy is an emotion like happiness?

They believe they must _____ certain feelings, stoically endure trials, or ignore their pain

But this is not what Yeshua said or did - He cried at the death of His friend Lazarus

Yet, He also imparted His joy to His disciples on the way to His execution

John 15:10-11 “If you keep my commands, you will stay in my love — just as I have kept my Father’s commands and stay in his love. 11 I have said this to you so that my joy may be in you, and your joy be complete.” CJB

So, we can be joyful on one hand & yet be sad or depressed on the other hand at times

John 16:20-21 “Yes, it’s true. I tell you that you will sob and mourn, and the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. 21 When a woman is giving birth, she is in pain; because her time has come. But when the baby is born, she forgets her suffering out of joy that a child has come into the world.” CJB

Notes

Why are we going to rejoice today? - We know that ...

Our triune God enacted a Plan of Salvation long in advance of our triune creation, which means

Everything done on earth manifests the Father’s _____

John 9:2-3 “His talmidim asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned – this man or his parents – to cause him to be born blind?” 3 Yeshua answered, “His blindness is due neither to his sin nor to that of his parents; it happened so that God’s power might be seen at work in him.” CJB

Everything the Son did to remove sin & clothe us again reveals His _____

Isa 61:10 “I am so joyful in Adonai! My soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in salvation, dressed me with a robe of triumph, like a bridegroom wearing a festive turban, like a bride adorned with her jewels.” CJB

Notes

Everything the Spirit did to sacrifice Himself to be our Comforter reveals His _____

John 14:15-17 "If you love me, you will keep my commands; 16 and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting Counselor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever. 17 The world cannot receive him, because it neither sees nor knows him. You know him, because he is staying with you and will be united with you." CJB

We are the undeserved recipients of the Godhead's Plan of Salvation ...

Even though Yeshua our kinsman _____ delivered us from sin's consequence

We await the day when He will deliver us from sin's reality

Rev 21:4 "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will no longer be any death; and there will no longer be any mourning, crying or pain; because the old order has passed away."

Even though earthly processing includes _____ difficult (albeit temporary) trials

Rom 12:12 "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in your troubles, and continue steadfastly in prayer."

We thank the Father for working our post-salvation sinful acts towards our eternal good

Rom 8:28 "Furthermore, we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called in accordance with his purpose" CJB

Even though our earthly journey as His servants includes some _____ experiences

We know the Script - As our Master suffered, so will we (suffering precedes glory)

1 Peter 4:12-13 "Dear friends, don't regard as strange the fiery ordeal occurring among you to test you, as if something extraordinary were happening to you. 13 Rather, to the extent that you share the fellowship of the Messiah's sufferings, rejoice; so that you will rejoice even more when his Sh'khinah is revealed." CJB

Notes**We rejoice today in the "assurances" of the benefits of the Godhead's Plan of Salvation**

The Plan assures us of _____ benefit - We can't imagine it, but it's better than here

1 Cor 2:9-11 "But, as the Tanakh says, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard and no one's heart has imagined all the things that God has prepared for those who love him." 10 It is to us, however, that God has revealed these things. How? Through the Spirit. For the Spirit probes all things, even the profoundest depths of God." CJB

The Plan assures us of _____ benefit - Its truths take us into another dimension

Ps 138:2 "I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your grace and truth; for you have made your word [even] greater than the whole of your reputation." CJB

The Plan assures us of _____ benefit - Get answers when we bend our will to His

Ps 66:18-19 "Had I cherished evil thoughts, Adonai would not have listened. 19 But in fact, God did listen; he paid attention to my prayer." CJB

The Plan assures us of the _____ benefit - Cover us so that we are never alone

1 Thess 3:9-10 "Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you or express to our God all the joy we feel because of you? 10 Night and day we pray as hard as we can that we will be able to see you face to face and supply whatever shortcomings there may be in your trust." CJB

Notes

Conclusion - What should I take home from today's instruction?

I truly praise my God for His eternal plan of salvation and its assurances, now ...

**I no longer _____ trials through carnal eyes - I see them via the lens of Scripture
And won't yield to a soul unhappiness when discouragement and disappointment hit me**

Isa 41:10 "Don't be afraid, for I am with you; don't be distressed, for I am your God. I give you strength, I give you help, I support you with my victorious right hand." CJB

**I no longer see praise as just singing songs or listening to songs _____ - Because I realize
It's no accident the longest book in Scripture is actually a hymn book, which is why ...**

**Yeshua & the disciples sang Psalms 118 as they went out to Gethsemane (Matt. 26:30)
And Shaul and Silas sang while they were in a Philippian jail (Acts 16:25)**

Fact - The Father doesn't need to command me to do anything I already feel like doing

My blessing comes when I do what I don't feel like doing that He commanded me to do

Eph 5:19-20 "sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to each other; sing to the Lord and make music in your heart to him; 20 always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah." CJB

**I am no longer like those who always have to modify things or _____ on their own terms
It's no accident many believers lacking joy are not actively involved in serving Yeshua**

I want to be like Shaul, who died joyfully knowing he lived for the Gospel

Phil 1:12-14 "Now, brothers, I want you to know that what has happened to me has helped in advancing the Good News. 13 It has become clear to the whole palace and to everyone else that it is because of the Messiah that I am in chains. 14 Also, my being in prison has given most of the brothers in the Lord confidence, so that they have become much more bold in speaking the word of God fearlessly." CJB

I praise my God the Plan of Salvation provides for my _____, which is why now

I can take my eyes off of myself and serve the way the Father wants me to serve

Phil 2:3-4 "Do nothing out of rivalry or vanity; but, in humility, regard each other as better than yourselves - 4 look out for each other's interests and not just for your own." CJB

I can focus on Yeshua and doing the things my Father has promised me in Him - I can ...

Meditate on His execution (all His riches are mine via His resurrection)

Revel in His abundant grace (it's greater than the totality of my transgressions)

Marvel at His sovereign grace (He chose me before the foundation of the world in Him)

I can trust Yeshua to keep me from stumbling, until I'm in His presence "blameless with joy"

Jude 24-25 "Now, to the one who can keep you from falling and set you without defect and full of joy in the presence of his Sh'khinah - 25 to God alone, our Deliverer, through Yeshua the Messiah, our Lord - be glory, majesty, power and authority before all time, now and forever." CJB

Notes