

New Light: Joy

Good news of great joy

By Brett Hilliard, December 15, 2024

1. Joy is here

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people."

Luke 2:9-10 NLT

2. Joy is sent

I bring you good news that will cause great joy...

Luke 2:10 NIV

3. Joy is a journey

After they had heard the king, they went on their way... When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

Matthew 2:9-10 NIV

Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Psalms 30:5 NIV

You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.

John 16:20 NIV

4. Joy is intimidating

Simeon: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:34-35 NIV

Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.

Romans 9:32 NIV

5. Joy is a discipline

Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour!
Luke 1:46-47 NLT

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favour with God!”
Luke 1:29-30 NLT

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. What small things in life bring you joy? Take a moment to thank God for joys both big and small.
- 2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your level of joy today? What promises of God can help shift that upward?