

Sermon Notes



Title: "Rejoicing Even When Things Are Not Working"

Text: 1 Peter 1:6-9

Theme: Even in the midst of suffering and pain, joy and rejoicing can co-exist because of what God does in us through the crucible of testing. Christians can and should exude joy and rejoicing despite what might ail us because we have a living hope and an imperishable inheritance.

I. Christians Have a Solid _____ for
_____ (v. 6a)

II. When Christians Go Through _____ Their Faith Is
Being _____ for Its
_____ (vv. 6b-7)

III. Even Though Christians Have Never _____
_____ the Lord Jesus, They Nevertheless
_____ Him (vv. 8-9)

IV. Some Matters of Interpretation

A. What is the "_____" in which these Christians
rejoice?

B. Is "Rejoice" a _____ or a
_____?

C. Who receives _____?

V. Applications

A. _____ should be a mark of the believer.

B. Rejoicing can _____ because of what God
does in the _____ of testing.

C. You know you believe the Gospel when you truly
_____ the Lord Jesus and _____ in
Him even though you have never _____ Him.

Next Week Read: 1 Peter 1:10-12

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. What does Peter observe about these Christians (v. 6a)?
2. What was the reason (the “this”) for the behavior of these Christians?
3. What possibly might have kept these Christians from engaging in the behavior that Peter observed about them (vv. 6b-7)?
4. What is the time frame during which these Christians experience difficulties (v. 6b)?
5. What does testing do to the faith of the believer (v. 7a)?
6. To what does Peter compare the genuineness of the believer’s faith (v. 7b)?
7. What does genuine faith produce? When does Peter indicate this will happen (v. 7c)?
8. What was the attitude these believers had to Christ even though they had never seen Him (v. 8)?
9. How does Peter describe the joy of these Christians (v. 8b)?
10. What is the result of believing in the Lord Jesus Christ (v. 9)?
11. How profitable is it to your spiritual growth to wrestle with seemingly insignificant matters of interpretation? Why or why not?
12. If verse 6 is understood as a command, what might this be implying?
13. Is there an instance in Scripture where a person’s faith is commended? If so, where?
14. What specifically about God’s work in your life makes you rejoice on a regular basis?
15. Can a Christian have joy even when his heart is grieving and mournful? If so, how?
16. What would your brothers and sisters readily identify as a prominent mark of your Christian life?
17. How expressive should your joy be (or not be) in the assembly of God’s people during worship?
18. How has your faith been tested lately?
19. What enables you to persevere during trials?
20. How is it possible to believe or to love something or someone that you have never seen? Is there something or someone (other than Christ) that you have never seen, yet love?