

A Reminder List

As Christians go through their busy lives it is important for them to stop and remember some things. Here are a few things that Christians are called upon to remember:

- **Remember** the words of the Lord Jesus (Acts 20:32; 2 Peter 3:2; Jude 17)
- **Remember** the poor (Galatians 2:10)
- **Remember** that we were once lost (Ephesians 2:11)
- **Remember** Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:8)
- **Remember** other Christians who are being persecuted (Hebrews 13:2)
- **Remember** those men (the elders) who have the rule over us (Hebrews 13:7)
- **Remember** from where we have fallen and repent (Rev. 2:5)
- **Remember** the words we have heard from the gospel and keep it (Revelation 3:3)

- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- Money can get you nearly everywhere except heaven and it can buy you nearly everything except happiness.
- When looking for faults, first use a mirror before using a telescope.
- Bad habits are like a comfortable bed; easy to get into and hard to get out of.
- Alcohol costs a man both his dollars and his sense.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
wbcoc.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
For More Information Call
(931) 647-1324

Published and Edited By
Chris Reeves
(615) 389-3250
chrisreevesmail@gmail.com
TheGoodTeacher.com

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

The Joy That Cannot Be Taken From You

*Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one is going to take your joy away from you.
- John 16:22 -*

Christian Joy Is Needed Today

There are many things in life that can be taken from us like life, health, things, etc. When these things are taken from us, we often lose our joy and we become unhappy.

As Jesus was about to go to the cross, he encouraged his disciples one last time in a discourse recorded in John 13-17. In this discourse, Jesus told his disciples that they would have a joy that could not be taken from them. These disciples would need joy later during the unhappy circumstances that would arise when they went to preach the gospel to the whole world (John 15:11; 16:20-24; 17:13).

Jesus gave his disciples a beautiful promise: “no one is going to take your joy away from you” (John 16:22). We too need this kind of joy in an unhappy world. Many people have cheapened the true nature of Christian joy by

turning it into something merely social or recreational. So, what is the true joy of Jesus that cannot be taken from us?

The Joy That Can Be Taken Away

There are in fact some kinds of joy can be taken from us like...

- Joy connected with human relationships (Proverbs 17:21; Matthew 10:37)
- Joy connected with wealth (Proverbs 23:4-5; 27:24)
- Joy connected with possessions (Isaiah 9:3; Matthew 6:19; Hebrews 10:34)
- Joy connected with unrighteousness (2 Thessalonians 2:12; Hebrews 11:25)
- Joy connected with pleasure (Ecclesiastes 2:10; 2 Timothy 3:4)

The Joy That Cannot Be Taken Away

Then, there is that joy that cannot be taken away from us like...

- Joy of salvation (Psalm 51:12; 71:23; Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 2:10; Acts 8:39)

- Joy of faithful brethren (Acts 2:46; Philippians 2:2,17-18; 3 John 4)
- Joy of a faithful family (Prov. 23:24-26)
- Joy of living right for Jesus (Proverbs 21:15; Galatians 5:22)
- Joy of knowing the Lord is on our side (Psalm 5:11; 21:6)
- Joy of God’s word (Psalm 119:162)
- Joy of worshipping God (Psalm 95:2; 122:1; 2 Corinthians 9:7)
- Joy of suffering for right (Matthew 5:11-12; James 1:2)
- Joy of heaven set before us (John 14:1-3; Hebrews 12:1-2)

Christian Joy

Joy that is based upon purely temporal (earthly) things does not last, is short-sighted, and is misplaced. Joy from Jesus based upon true spiritual relationships cannot be taken away. True joy that cannot be taken away makes us strong and will help during unhappy circumstances (Nehemiah 8:10). - *Chris Reeves*