



Series: The King Is Coming

Sermon: Part 3: Lasting Joy For All People

Date: Sunday, December 18th, 2022

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

Then I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth, for the first Heaven and the first Earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the Holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:1-4)

"Let the goodness of _____, come to Earth; come to me; come to my family; to my community; our nation; and our world."

"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." (Mark 2:17)

"Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!" (Luke 2:14)

Thus says the Lord: "Heaven is My throne, and the Earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for Me, and what is the place of My rest? All these things My hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at My Word." (Isaiah 66:1-2)

We are not well but there is _____ because the King comes to those who know that they are not well.

Heaven sees life _____.

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you Good News of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

_____ : A sense of extreme happiness and well being related in Scripture to knowing God and God's actions and love, especially in Jesus Christ. (Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms)



Happiness is the immediate sense that God is with me. Joy is a _____ power that remains when life does not go well.

We need to have right sized expectations for what life offers because every blessing in life comes with challenges and setbacks.

We are unable to _____ a joyous life because we look for it in places that are obviously wrong and we look for it in unreliable places that cannot be sustained.

“Be appalled at this, you Heavens, and shudder with great horror,” declares the Lord. “My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken Me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.” (Jeremiah 2:12-13)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” (John 7:37-38)

“You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.” (Psalm 16:11)

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

Bottom Line: *Heaven sees your life differently than the way you see it, or others see it.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. What is joy? What is the difference between joy and happiness?
2. Why doesn't our joy last? What do you have the tendency to look for joy in?
3. Can we experience lasting, sustainable joy even when we and the things around us are not well? How does hope in Jesus change this?

Songs used in service: Too Good To Not Believe (Cody Carnes & Brandon Lake), Reckless Love-Haitian Creole (Kensley Alexandre & Rodberry Jacques), No Longer Slaves (Jonathan David & Melissa Helser), Joy To The World/Joyful, Joyful (Phil Wickham)

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Any prayer requests?

Name: _____ **Email (so we can follow up):** _____

What can we be praying for you about?