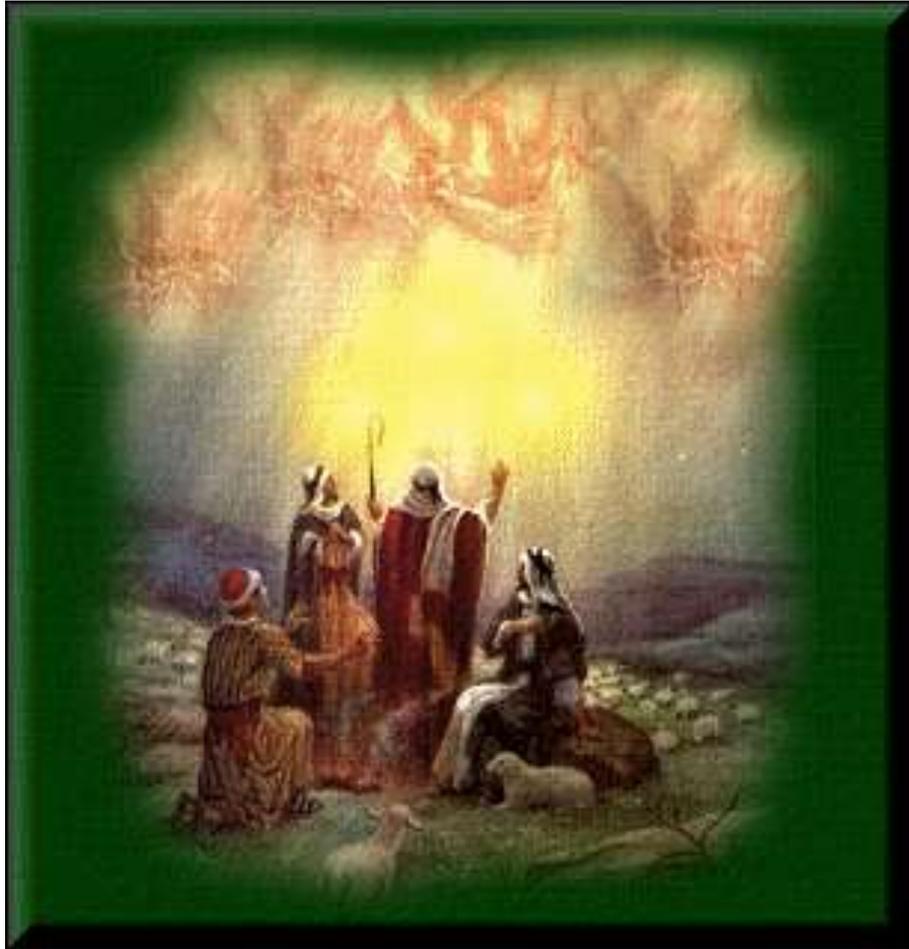


# JOY FROM HEAVEN



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## JOY DEFINED

Joy is an inner feeling of peace and happiness that is not based on circumstances but is rooted and grounded in a relationship with God

## HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF JOY

Make no mistake about it, Heaven is a place of unrestricted, continuous and pure joy. There is nothing on this earth that can compare to the joy of being in Heaven.

- God is in Heaven and in the presence of God is fullness of joy (Ps. 16:11).
- Heaven is called the “joy of the Lord” (Matt. 25:21, 23).
- There is joy in Heaven when a sinner repents (Lk. 15:7).
- The world rejoices now but one day God’s people will rejoice eternally in Heaven (Jn. 16:20).
- The Kingdom of God consists of joy (Rom. 14:17).
- In Heaven God will wipe away all tears and there will be no mourning, crying or pain, only joy (Rev. 21:4).

## JOY ON THIS EARTH IS LIMITED

Joy on this earth is limited by sin. It is limited in two ways: first because we have a sin nature, we cannot experience the fullness of joy. Second our joy is effected by the sorrow and pain caused by sin.

## THE BELIEVER CAN EXPERIENCE FULLNESS OF JOY

The Lord wants believers to get a taste of the joy of Heaven here on earth. So He made a way for them to experience this joy!

*He Sent Jesus to Set the Way for the Holy Spirit (Jn. 15:26; 16:7).*

*He Included Joy as a Fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22).*

*As the Believer Is Filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18), His Joy Becomes Full (1 Jn. 1:4; 2 Jn. 1:12).*

### JESUS CAME THAT WE MIGHT GET A TASTE OF THE JOY OF HEAVEN

Even though we cannot get the full experience the joy found in Heaven, we can get a taste of what it is like. Below is listed three types of joy found in Glory that we can partially know while on this earthly sojourn.

*Unhindered Joy (2 Cor. 7:4).*

As Paul was going through great persecution, he could have let it overwhelm him with a spirit of heaviness. However to the contrary, he could be found overabounding with joy in the midst of tribulation. Satan, sin and circumstances will throw road blocks in our way but we must overcome them with superabundant joy.

*Uninterrupted Joy (Phil. 4:4; 1 Thes. 5:16).*

As difficult as it might be, the child of God should have unbroken joy. There should never be a time when joy is absent in the life of the believer. He should rejoice at all times and in any situation.

*Unmixed Joy (James 1:2).*

The believer is commanded to count his problems joy. He should not be joyful because of his problems but in the midst of his problems. There is also another observation about this joy, it should be counted “all joy.” This means it should be all joy, not mixed with anything else—nothing but pure joy.