

What Does God
 Ask of Me?
 Expectation #6
 Leap for joy

Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets. – Luke 6:22-23

What true joy is not?

It cannot be FOUND in things.

It cannot be FOUND in our circumstances.

It cannot be FOUND in the word "IF".

"**IF** my circumstances change."

"**IF** my job was better."

"**IF** my spouse was more understanding."

BIBICALLY DEFINITION OF JOY:

The Greek word CHARA; gladness or delight.

The Greek word CHAILO: to be full of cheer, to be glad.

BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF JOY IS BASED NOT IN WHAT I DO, BUT WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE FOR ME.

BIBLICAL JOY IS BASED IN THE FACT THAT JESUS HAS CONQUERED THE GRAVE AND MY TRUST IN HIM ALLOWS ME TO LIVE FOR ETERNITY.

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. – Matthew 13:44

QUESTION: Why could JESUS face the cross with JOY?

ANSWER: HE knew the END.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. – Hebrews 12:2-3

"The greatest disappointment in your life will come when you put your trust in that thing that never delivered what it promised." – Ravi Zacharias

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." – John 16:33

QUESTION: What is the KEY to fullness of JOY?

ANSWER: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. – John 15:9-11