



### JOY: The "Shout-It-from the-Rooftops" fruit

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

Luke 2:8-11

"After much thought, I decided to cheer myself with wine. And while still seeking wisdom, I clutched at foolishness. In this way, I tried to experience the only happiness most people find during their brief life in this world.

I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards. I made gardens and parks, filling them with all kinds of fruit trees. I built reservoirs to collect the water to irrigate my many flourishing groves.

I bought slaves, both men and women, and others were born into my household. I also owned large herds and flocks, more than any of the kings who had lived in Jerusalem before me. I collected great sums of silver and gold, the treasure of many kings and provinces. I hired wonderful singers, both men and women, and had many beautiful concubines. I had everything a man could desire!

So I became greater than all who had lived in Jerusalem before me, and my wisdom never failed me. Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure. I even found great pleasure in hard work, a reward for all my labor. But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. There was nothing really worthwhile anywhere." Ecclesiastes 2:3-11

*"But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives."* I Timothy 5:6

"But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!"

Galatians 5:22-23

*"For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."* Psalm 30:5

"No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way." Hebrews 12:11

*"He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."* Revelation 21:4

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who long for your saving help always say, "The LORD is great!" Psalm 40:16

"... because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 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 16:10-11

"Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."

### Psalm 34:5-8

"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him... ... the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

### Some of what the wise men did:

- Observed
- Searched

- Valued
- Worshipped

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." Psalm 100:2-4

*"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving."* Psalm 69:30

"Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." Psalm 95:2



### *"Oh, the joys of those who are kind to the poor! The LORD rescues them when they are in trouble."* Psalm 41:1

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35

### "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."

## *"Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony."*

#### Hebrews 10:24

Colossians 3:14

### What can you to grow the joy that is within you:

- Seek His presence
- Fear Him
- will do for you
- Praise and worshipp Him with thanksgiving

### • Value Him, know who He is and what He did, does and

# • Be a blessing to others, showing the love of God to them