

## ~JOY (714)

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· The emotion excited by the acquisition or expectation of good, state of happiness, exultation. The Hebrew and Greek words used in the Bible for joy, exultation, rejoicing, and being glad express various shades of meaning, different stages or degrees of joy.

· The verbs involved express the inner feeling and the outward manifestation of joy and variously mean, be joyful, exult, shout for joy, leap for joy.

### ··Yehowah God and Jesus Christ

- Yehowah is called the **happy** God.
- According to the glorious Good News of the **happy** God, with which I was entrusted. (**1 Timothy 1:11**)
- He creates and works with **joy** for himself and his creatures. What he brings about makes him **joyful**.
- The glory of Yehowah will prove to be to time indefinite. Yehowah will **rejoice** in his works. (**Psalms 104:31**)
- He wants his creatures likewise to **enjoy** his works and to **enjoy** their own work.
- Also every man to whom the true God has given riches and material possessions, he has even empowered him to eat from it and to carry off his portion and to **rejoice** in his hard work. This is the gift of God. (**Ecclesiastes 5:19**)
- Since he is the Source of all good things

- Every good gift and every perfect present is from above, for it comes down from the Father of the celestial lights, and with him there is not a variation of the turning of the shadow. (**James 1:17**)
- All intelligent creatures, both mankind and angels, can find their chief **enjoyment** in coming to know him.
- This is what Yehowah has said; Let not the wise man brag about himself because of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man brag about himself because of his mightiness. Let not the rich man brag about himself because of his riches. (**Jeremiah 9:23**)
- But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I do take **delight**, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 9:24**)
- King David said; Let my musing about him be **pleasurable**. I, for my part, shall rejoice in Yehowah.
- Let my musing about him be pleasurable. I, for my part, shall rejoice in Yehowah. (**Psalms 104:34**)
- He also sang;
- And the righteous one will **rejoice** in Yehowah and will indeed take refuge in him, and all the upright in heart will boast. (**Psalms 64:10**)
- The apostle Paul urged Christians to take **joy** at all times in their knowledge of Yehowah and his dealing with them, writing to them. Always **rejoice** in the Lord Yehowah, in several versions. Once more I will say; **Rejoice!**
- Always **rejoice** in the Lord. Once more I will say; **Rejoice!** (**Philippians 4:4**)
- Jesus Christ, who was the intimate one of Yehowah, knows him best.
- All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and no one

- fully knows the Son but the Father, neither does anyone fully know the Father but the Son and anyone to whom the Son is willing to reveal him. (**Matthew 11:27**)
- **And he is able to explain Him to his followers.**
  - **No man has seen God at any time, the only-begotten god who is in the bosom position with the Father is the one that has explained him. (**John 1:18**)**
  - **Yehowah is therefore joyful, being called, the happy and only Potentate.**
  - **That you observe the commandment in a spotless and irreprehensible way until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ. (**1 Timothy 6:14**)**
  - **This manifestation, of his Christ, the happy and only Potentate will show in its own appointed times, he the King of those who rule as kings and Lord of those who rule as lords. (**1 Timothy 6:15**)**
  - **Out of love for his Father, he is eager to do always the things that please Him.**
  - **And he that sent me is with me, he did not abandon me to myself, because I always do the things pleasing to him. (**John 8:29**)**
  - **Therefore, when there was set before him the task of coming to earth, suffering, and dying in order, that he might vindicate Yehowah's name, for the joy that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame.**
  - **As we look intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our faith, Jesus. For the joy that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (**Hebrews 12:2**)**
  - **He also had great love for and joy in mankind. The Scriptures, personifying him in his pre-human existence as wisdom, represent him as saying;**
  - **Then I came to be beside him as a master worker, and I came to**

be the one he was specially fond of day by day, I being **glad** before him all the time. (**Proverbs 8:30**)

- Being glad at the productive land of his earth, and the things I was fond of were with the sons of men. (**Proverbs 8:31**)
- Jesus desired his followers to have the same **joy**, telling them, These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you and your joy may be made full. The angels had joy at the creation of the earth.
- These things I have spoken to you, that my **joy** may be in you and your joy may be made full. (**John 15:11**)
- But now I am coming to you, and I am speaking these things in the world in order, that they may have my **joy** in themselves to the full. (**John 17:13**)
- Where did you happen to be when I founded the earth? Tell me, if you do know understanding. (**Job 38:4**)
- Who set its measurements, in case you know, or who stretched out upon it the measuring line? (**Job 38:5**)
- Into what have its socket pedestals been sunk down, or who laid its cornerstone. (**Job 38:6**)
- When the morning stars **joyfully** cried out together, and all the sons of God began shouting in applause? (**Job 38:7**)
- They also view the course of God's people, taking **joy** in their faithful course and especially exulting when an individual turns from his sinful ways to the pure worship and service of God.
- I tell you that thus there will be more **joy** in heaven over one sinner that repents than over ninety-nine righteous ones who have no need of repentance. (**Luke 15:7**)
- Thus, I tell you, **joy** arises among the angels of God over one sinner that repents. (**Luke 15:10**)

### ·· What Makes God Joyful

- Yehowah's heart can be made **glad** by his servants because of their faithfulness and loyalty to him. Satan the Devil has constantly

**challenged the rightfulness of God's sovereignty and the integrity of all those serving God.**

- **At that Satan answered Yehowah and said; Is it for nothing that Job has feared God? (Job 1:9)**
- **Have not you yourself put up a hedge about him and about his house and about everything that he has all around? The work of his hands you have blessed, and his livestock itself has spread abroad in the earth. (Job 1:10)**
- **But, for a change, thrust out your hand, please, and touch everything he has and see whether he will not curse you to your very face. (Job 1:11)**
- **But Satan answered Yehowah and said; Skin in behalf of skin, and everything that a man has he will give in behalf of his soul. (Job 2:4)**
- **For a change, thrust out your hand, please, and touch as far as his bone and his flesh and see whether he will not curse you to your very face. (Job 2:5)**
- **And I heard a loud voice in heaven say; Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ, because the accuser of our brothers has been hurled down, who accuses them day and night before our God! (Revelation 12:10)**
- **To them apply the words;**
- **Be wise, my son, and make my heart rejoice, that I may make a reply to him that is taunting me. (Proverbs 27:11)**
- **Yehowah's people in the earth can cause God to rejoice by faithfulness and loyalty to him.**
- **And I will be joyful in Jerusalem and exult in my people, and no more will there be heard in her the sound of weeping or the sound of a plaintive cry. (Isaiah 65:19)**
- **Yehowah your God is in the midst of you. As a mighty One, he will save. He will exult over you with rejoicing. He will become silent in his love. He will be joyful over you with happy cries.**

(Zephaniah 3:17)

### · A Fruit Of The Spirit

- Since Yehowah is the Source of **joy** and he desires **joyfulness** for his people, **joy** is a fruit of his Holy Spirit. **Joy** is named immediately after love in the list at;
- On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, **joy**, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith. (Galatians 5:22)
- Mildness, self-control. Against such things there is no Law. (Galatians 5:23)
- The apostle wrote to the Christians at Thessalonica.
- And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, seeing that you accepted the word under much tribulation with **joy** of Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 1:6)
- Accordingly, Paul counseled the Christians at Rome that the Kingdom of God means righteousness and peace and **joy** with Holy Spirit.
- For the kingdom of God does not mean eating and drinking, but means righteousness and peace and **joy with Holy Spirit**. (Romans 14:17)
- True **joy** is a quality of the heart and can affect the whole body for good.
- A **joyful** heart has a good effect on the countenance, but because of the pain of the heart there is a stricken spirit. (Proverbs 15:13)
- A heart that is **joyful** does good as a curer, but a spirit that is stricken makes the bones dry. (Proverbs 17:22) Footnote

### · Joy In God's Service

- What Yehowah asks of his servants is not burdensome.
- For this is what the love of God means, that we observe his commandments, and yet his commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:3)

- He wants them to **enjoy** his service. His people Israel were to enjoy the seasonal festivals that he arranged for them, and they were to rejoice in other aspects of their life and worship of God.
- And you must take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, the fronds of palm trees and the boughs of branchy trees and poplars of the torrent valley, and you must rejoice before Yehowah your God seven days. (**Leviticus 23:40**)
- And there you must eat before Yehowah your God and rejoice in every undertaking of yours, you and your households, because Yehowah your God has blessed you. (**Deuteronomy 12:7**)
- And you must rejoice before Yehowah your God, you and your sons and your daughters and your man slaves and your slave girls and the Levite who is inside your gates, because he has no share or inheritance with you. (**Deuteronomy 12:12**)
- But before Yehowah your God you will eat it, in the place that Yehowah your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter and your man slave and your slave girl and the Levite who is inside your gates, and you must rejoice before Yehowah your God in every undertaking of yours. (**Deuteronomy 12:18**)
- They were to speak out about God **joyfully**.
- We will cry out **joyfully** because of your salvation, and in the name of our God we shall lift our banners. May Yehowah fulfill all your requests. (**Psalms 20:5**)
- Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God the God of my salvation, that my tongue may **joyfully** tell about your righteousness. (**Psalms 51:14**)
- But as for me, I shall sing of your strength, and in the morning I shall **joyfully** tell about your loving-kindness. For you have proved to be a secure height for me and a place to which to flee in the day of my distress. (**Psalms 59:16**)
- If they did not serve with **joy** of heart, there was something wrong with their hearts and their appreciation of his loving-kindness and goodness.

- Therefore he warned what would take place if they became disobedient and took no joy in serving him:
- And all these maledictions will certainly come upon you and pursue you and overtake you until you have been annihilated, because you did not listen to the voice of Yehowah your God by keeping his commandments and his statutes that he commanded you. (**Deuteronomy 28:45**)
- And they must continue on you and your offspring as a sign and a portent to time indefinite. (**Deuteronomy 28:46**)
- Due to the fact that you did not serve Yehowah your God with rejoicing and **joy** of heart for the abundance of everything. (**Deuteronomy 28:47**)
- The Christian, no less, should **enjoy** his service to God. Otherwise, something is lacking in heart appreciation.
- Serve Yehowah with rejoicing. Come in before him with a **joyful** cry. (**Psalms 100:2**)
- The **joy** of Yehowah is your stronghold, said one of God's faithful servants.
- And he went on to say to them; Go, eat the fatty things and drink the sweet things, and send portions to the one for whom nothing has been prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not feel hurt, for the **joy** of Yehowah is your stronghold. (**Nehemiah 8:10**)
- The Good News the Christian proclaims was announced by God's angel as Good News of **a great joy** that all the people will have.
- But the angel said to them; Have no fear, for, look! I am declaring to you Good News of **a great joy** that all the people will have. (**Luke 2:10**)
- Yehowah's name upon his witnesses and the truth as found in the Bible should themselves be a **joy** to them. The prophet Jeremiah said,
- Your words were found, and I proceeded to eat them, and your word becomes to me the **exultation** and the **rejoicing** of my



heart, for your name has been called upon me, O Yehowah God of armies. (**Jeremiah 15:16**)

- Moreover, Yehowah's just, right judicial decisions put into effect in the Christian congregation and in the lives of Christians are cause for **joy**, especially in a time when the world has thrown justice and righteousness to the ground.
- May Mount Zion rejoice, may the dependent towns of Judah be **joyful**, on account of your judicial decisions. (**Psalms 48:11**)
- Then, too, the marvelous hope ahead surely gives strong ground for **joyfulness**. Rejoice in the hope;
- **Rejoice** in the hope. Endure under tribulation. Persevere in prayer. (**Romans 12:12**)
- The expectation of the righteous ones is a **rejoicing**, but the very hope of the wicked ones will perish. (**Proverbs 10:28**)
- Their salvation is a basis for **joy**.
- As for me, in your loving-kindness I have trusted, let my heart be **joyful** in your salvation. (**Psalms 13:5**)
- Additionally, there is the **joy** that the servant of God has in those whom he aids in coming to the knowledge and service of Yehowah.
- Consequently, my brothers beloved and longed for, my **joy** and crown, stand firm in this way in the Lord, beloved ones. (**Philippians 4:1**)
- For what is our hope or **joy** or **crown of exultation**, why, is it not in fact you? Before our Lord Jesus at his presence? (**1 Thessalonians 2:19**)
- Meeting together and working together with God's people is one of the greatest **joys**.
- Remember me, O Yehowah, with the goodwill toward your people. Take care of me with your salvation. (**Psalms 106:4**)
- That I may see the goodness to your chosen ones, that I may **rejoice** with the **rejoicing** of your nation, that I may make my

boast with your inheritance. (**Psalms 106:5**)

- I **rejoiced** when they were saying to me; To the house of Yehowah let us go. (**Psalms 122:1**)

### ·· **Persecution A Cause For Joy**

- For the Christian who guards his heart, even persecution, though not in itself **enjoyable**, should be viewed with joy, for endurance of it with integrity is a victory. God will help the faithful one.

- Being made powerful with all power to the extent of his glorious might so as to endure fully and be long-suffering with **joy**. (**Colossians 1:11**)

- Additionally, it is proof that one is approved by God. Jesus said that when reproach and persecution come, the Christian should leap for **joy**.

- Happy are you when people reproach you and persecute you and lyingly say every sort of wicked thing against you for my sake. (**Matthew 5:11**)

- Rejoice and leap for **joy**, since your reward is great in the heavens, for in that way they persecuted the prophets prior to you. (**Matthew 5:12**)

- Consider it all **joy**, my brothers, when you meet with various trials. (**James 1:2**)

- Knowing as you do that this tested quality of your faith works out endurance. (**James 1:3**)

- But let endurance have its work complete, that you may be complete and sound in all respects, not lacking in anything. (**James 1:4**)

- On the contrary, go on rejoicing forasmuch as you are sharers in the sufferings of the Christ, that you may rejoice and be **overjoyed** also during the revelation of his glory. (**1 Peter 4:13**)

- If you are being reproached for the name of Christ, you are happy, because the spirit of glory, even the spirit of God, is resting upon you. (**1 Peter 4:14**)

## · Other Joys Provided By God

- **Yehowah has provided many other things that mankind may enjoy day by day. Some of these are marriage**
- **In case a man takes a new wife, he should not go out into the army, nor should anything else be imposed onto him. He should continue exempt at his house for one year, and he must make his wife whom he has taken rejoice. (Deuteronomy 24:5)**
- **Let your water source prove to be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth. (Proverbs 5:18)**
- **Being father or mother of a righteous and wise child.**
- **The father of a righteous one will without fail be joyful, the one becoming father to a wise one will also rejoice in him. (Proverbs 23:24)**
- **Your father and your mother will rejoice, and she that gave birth to you will be joyful. (Proverbs 23:25)**
- **Food**
- **Bread is for the laughter of the workers, and wine itself makes life rejoice, but money is what meets a response in all things. (Ecclesiastes 10:19)**
- **Although, indeed, he did not leave himself without witness in that he did good, giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts to the full with food and good cheer. (Acts of Apostles 14:17)**
- **Wine**
- **He is making green grass sprout for the beasts, and vegetation for the service of mankind, to cause food to go forth from the earth. (Psalms 104:14)**
- **And wine that makes the heart of mortal man rejoice, to make the face shine with oil, and bread that sustains the very heart of mortal man. (Psalms 104:15)**

- Bread is for the laughter of the workers, and wine itself makes life **rejoice**, but money is what meets a response in all things. (**Ecclesiastes 10:19**)
- **And the multitudinous things of His creation.**
- Every good gift and every perfect present is from above, for it comes down from the Father of the celestial lights, and with him there is not a variation of the turning of the shadow. (**James 1:17**)
- Give orders to those who are rich in the present system of things not to be high-minded, and to rest their hope, not on uncertain riches, but on God, who furnishes us all things richly for our **enjoyment**. (**1 Timothy 6:17**)

#### •• **False, Or Non-lasting Joys**

- Jesus speaks of some who would hear the truth and receive it with **joy** but without getting the real sense of it. Such do not cultivate the implanted word in their hearts and, as a consequence, soon lose their joy by being stumbled when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word.
- As for the one sown upon the rocky places, this is the one hearing the word and at once accepting it with **joy**. (**Matthew 13:20**)
- Yet he has no root in himself but continues for a time, and after tribulation or persecution has arisen on account of the word he is at once stumbled. (**Matthew 13:21**)
- **Joy** based on materialism is a false joy that is in error and will be short-lived. Also, a person rejoicing over the calamity of another, even of one who hates him, must account to Yehowah for his sin.
- If I used to **rejoice** because my property was much, and because my hand had found a lot of things. (**Job 31:25**)
- If I used to see the light when it would flash forth, or the precious moon walking along. (**Job 31:26**)
- And my heart began to be enticed in secrecy and my hand proceeded to kiss my mouth. (**Job 31:27**)

- That too would be an error for attention by the justices, for I should have denied the true God above. (**Job 31:28**)
- If I used to **rejoice** at the extinction of one intensely hating me, or I felt excited because evil had found him. (**Job 31:29**)
- And I did not allow my palate to sin by asking for an oath against his soul. (**Job 31:30**)
- He that is holding the one of little means in derision has reproached his Maker. He that is **joyful** at another's disaster will not be free from punishment. (**Proverbs 17:5**)
- When your enemy falls, do not **rejoice**, and when he is caused to stumble, may your heart not be **joyful**. (**Proverbs 24:17**)
- That Yehowah may not see and it be bad in his eyes and he certainly turn back his anger from against him. (**Proverbs 24:18**)
- **A young man is foolish to think that enjoyment of life requires that he give in to following the desires incidental to youth.**
- So, flee from the desires incidental to youth, but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace, along with those who call upon the Lord out of a clean heart. (**2 Timothy 2:22**)
- **Rejoice**, young man, in your youth, and let your heart do you good in the days of your young manhood, and walk in the ways of your heart and in the things seen by your eyes. But know that on account of all these the true God will bring you into judgment. (**Ecclesiastes 11:9**)
- So remove vexation from your heart, and ward off calamity from your flesh, for youth and the prime of life are vanity. (**Ecclesiastes 11:10**)
- Similarly, love of **merriment** will bring one into a bad situation.
- He that is loving **merriment** will be an individual in want, he that is loving wine and oil will not gain riches. (**Proverbs 21:17**)
- The heart of the wise ones is in the house of mourning, but the heart of the **stupid ones is in the house of rejoicing**. (**Ecclesiastes**

7:4)

- Even the Christian who exults in comparing himself with others is in error. Rather, he should prove what his own work is and have cause for **exultation** in himself alone.
- But let each one prove what his own work is, and then he will have cause for **exultation** in regard to himself alone, and not in comparison with the other person. (**Galatians 6:4**)

### · Everlasting Joy

- Yehowah promised to restore his people Israel after their exile in Babylon. He did bring them back to Jerusalem in **537 B.C.E**, and they greatly rejoiced when the temple foundation was laid.
- And the very ones redeemed by Yehowah will return and certainly come to Zion with a **joyful** cry, and rejoicing to time indefinite will be upon their head. To **exultation** and rejoicing they will attain, and grief and sighing must flee away. (**Isaiah 35:10**)
- Then the redeemed ones of Yehowah themselves will return and must come to Zion with a **joyful** outcry, and rejoicing to time indefinite will be upon their head. To exultation and rejoicing they will attain. Grief and sighing will certainly flee away. (**Isaiah 51:11**)
- For here I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and the former things will not be called to mind, neither will they come up into the heart. (**Isaiah 65:17**)
- But exult, you people, and be **joyful** forever in what I am creating. For here I am creating Jerusalem a cause for joyfulness and her people a cause for exultation. (**Isaiah 65:18**)
- And I will be **joyful** in Jerusalem and exult in my people, and no more will there be heard in her the sound of weeping or the sound of a plaintive cry. (**Isaiah 65:19**)
- When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of Yehowah, then the priests in official clothing, with the trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph, with the cymbals, stood up to praise Yehowah according to the direction of David the king of Israel.

**(Ezra 3:10)**

- **And they began to respond by praising and giving thanks to Yehowah, for he is good, for his loving-kindness toward Israel is to time indefinite. As for all the people, they shouted with a loud shout in praising Yehowah over the laying of the foundation of the house of Yehowah. (Ezra 3:11)**
- **And many of the priests and the Levites and the heads of the paternal houses, the old men that had seen the former house, were weeping with a loud voice at the laying of the foundation of this house before their eyes, while many others were raising the voice in shouting for joy. (Ezra 3:12)**
- **Hence the people were not distinguishing the sound of the shout of rejoicing from the sound of the weeping of the people, for the people were shouting with a loud shout, and the sound itself was heard even to a great distance. (Ezra 3:13)**
- **But Isaiah's prophecy,**
- **For here I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and the former things will not be called to mind, neither will they come up into the heart. (Isaiah 65:17)**
- **Has a greater fulfillment in the establishment of a new heaven and a new earth, in which arrangement all mankind will have joy forever under the New Jerusalem.**
- **And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea is no more. (Revelation 21:1)**
- **I saw also the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God and prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Revelation 21:2)**
- **With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say; Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. (Revelation 21:3)**
- **Under present conditions, wickedness, sickness, and death prevent full and undiminished joy. But in harmony with the Bible rule;**

**A wise king is scattering wicked people, Jesus Christ as King will bring an end to all enemies of God and of righteousness.**

- **A wise king is scattering wicked people, and he turns around upon them a wheel. ([Proverbs 20:26](#))**
- **For he must rule as king until God has put all enemies under his feet ([1 Corinthians 15:25](#))**
- **As the last enemy, death is to be brought to nothing. ([1 Corinthians 15:26](#))**
- **Thus all obstacles to complete **joy** will be removed, for even death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore.**
- **And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. ([Revelation 21:4](#))**
- **Sorrow for those who have died will be completely gone, removed by the resurrection of the dead. This knowledge comforts Christians even today, who, on this account, do not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope.**
- **Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope. ([1 Thessalonians 4:13](#))**
- **For if our faith is that Jesus died and rose again, so, too, those who have fallen asleep in death through Jesus God will bring with him. ([1 Thessalonians 4:14](#))**
- **Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice. ([John 5:28](#))**
- **And come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life, those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgment. ([John 5:29](#))**