

Rejoice Evermore

Keith Dixon
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Gray

Introduction

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:16
2. Every normal person wants to be happy, to live a life in which there is much rejoicing.
3. God wants every person to be happy!
4. Jesus and His apostles promised that men could be happy even while living on this earth.
5. Let us study what robs men of happiness, things that help us overcome this thief and things that give men happiness

II Discussion

1. Some things that rob men of happiness
 - a. Caring too much for money 1 Timothy 6:6-10
 - b. Caring too much for sensual pleasures Galatians 5:19-21
 - i. We must confine ourselves to the things that the Bible authorizes
 - c. Caring too much for the things of this world 1 John 2:15-17
 - i. When the troubles of life come peace will be destroyed if we are not rooted and grounded in something more firm than the things of this world.
 - d. Caring too much for the necessities of this life Matthew 6:25-34
 - i. We must provide for our own, but this is when we become too obsessed with providing for them.
 - ii. We become anxious and this worry gets out of hand
2. Things that help us to overcome this thief of happiness
 - a. Believing in God
 - i. He created the universe, you and me thus He knows us and what we need
 - ii. This is the foundation fact that helps us with life problems
 - b. Believing in God's ability to care for us 1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:13
 - c. Learning contentment Philippians 4:11-12
 - d. Praying for Christ's help Philippians 4:6-7
3. Things that give men happiness
 - a. To know we are loved by God John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9
 - b. To know that we are cared for by God and our fellow man 1 Peter 5:7; Romans 12:15
 - c. To know that we have the grace of God Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 2:11-12
 - d. To know that we have hope Titus 1:2; Romans 8:24
 - e. To know that this too will pass 2 Peter 3:10
 - f. To forgive others their trespasses Matthew 6:9-13
 - g. To be in the loving relationship of the church and deity 1 John 1:7

III Conclusion

1. We all have our ups and downs - the feelings of happiness and sadness
2. Even Jesus was a man of sorrow Isaiah 53:3
3. This admonition is not shallow nor is it simplistic
4. To understand this we must understand what having true inner peace is all about

5. This begins by living the Christian life
6. Are you a Christian?
7. Now is a great time to being to life that life

Source: Preached in 1992 Lineville