

**Monday 3/25****Related Verses****Rom. 15:13**

13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**John 15:11**

11 These things I have spoken to you that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be made full.

**John 16:24**

24 Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be made full.

**Phil. 3:1**

1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, for me it is not irksome, but for you it is safe.

**Phil. 4:4-7**

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

5 Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is near.

6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

**1 Thes. 5:16-18**

16 Always rejoice,

17 Unceasingly pray,

18 In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

**Related Reading**

Romans 15:13 [indicates] that joy is one of God's attributes. God is the God of enjoyment. In our experience, if we enjoy God as grace, we shall have peace, and if we have peace, we shall have joy.

In His person Christ is joy to the believers...The context of John 15:11 is the Lord's word concerning the vine and the branches being an organism to glorify the Father by expressing the riches of the divine life (vv. 1-

11). For us to be branches of the divine vine and to bear fruit to express the divine life is a matter of joy—a joyful life. If we abide in the Lord and keep abiding in Him by abiding in His love so that we may bear much fruit to express the riches of His life for the glorification of the Father, we shall be filled with joy. Our joy always comes from our abiding in the Lord, from our abiding in His love, from our fruit-bearing in His rich life, and from the expression and glorification of the Father. In this kind of life we are full of a joy that is actually Christ Himself. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 106, 575)

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In John 17:13 the Lord Jesus again speaks concerning His joy being made full in the believers. In His prayer to the Father, He said, “Now I am coming to You, and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy made full in themselves.” The fullness of joy is in the real oneness. When we are one in the Father's name by the Father's life, enjoying the Father together, we shall have the Lord's joy made full in us. This is the reason that when we are truly one, we are filled with praise to the Father. This praise is the overflow of the inner joy.

In Philippians 3:1 Paul says, “Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, for me it is not irksome, but for you it is safe.” Here Paul charges the saints to rejoice in the Lord. His word indicates that rejoicing in the Lord is a safeguard, a security...There must have been a situation in Philippi that required a safeguard, some kind of protection. The situation Paul had in mind was the trouble caused by the Judaizers. As a protection from that trouble, Paul encouraged the saints to rejoice in the Lord.

In Philippians 4:4 Paul says, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” All believers need to rejoice in the Lord...This rejoicing affords us the strength for the oneness spoken of in Philippians 4:2 and 3. If believers are to think the same thing, it is necessary for them to learn to rejoice. Rejoicing in the Lord is also the secret of having the excellent characteristics listed in Philippians 4:5-9. If we would have the virtues found in these verses, we need to rejoice in the Lord. Therefore, rejoicing in the Lord is very important. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 575-576)

Whether the Lord's joy can remain in us depends on whether we make the Lord joyful. If we do not love the Lord and abide in Him, if the Lord's words do not abide in us, and if we do not obey the commandments given by the Lord, can the Lord be joyful in us?...Those who do not abide in the Lord often have a sad face and are without joy. At times they may joke around and appear joyful, or they may be joyful when they make money or get promoted, but in quiet moments they are not joyful. Therefore, they cannot render praises in the Lord's table meeting or open their mouth in the prayer meeting, because the Lord in them is sorrowful and without joy (Eph. 4:30). However, if we love the Lord, learn to abide in Him continually, allow His words to abide in us, abide in His love, receive His commandments, and obey His words, the Lord's joy will remain in us, and our joy will be made full. (*CWWL*, 1959, vol. 1, p. 374)

Further Reading: *The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msgs. 53, 83, 382

**Tuesday 3/26****Related Verses****Rom. 14:17**

17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**Gal. 5:22**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

**John 17:13**

13 But now I am coming to You, and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy made full in themselves.

**Acts 13:52**

52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

**Gal. 5:22**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

**2 Cor. 1:24**

24 Not that we lord it over your faith, but we are fellow workers with you for your joy; for by faith you stand.

**Phil. 1:25**

25 And being confident of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of the faith,

**Phil. 2:17-18**

17 But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice, and I rejoice together with you all.

18 And in like manner you also rejoice, and you rejoice together with me.

**Related Reading**

Romans 14:17 says that the kingdom of God, which is the reality of the church life, is joy in the Holy Spirit. First Thessalonians 1:6 tells us that the believers “received the word in much affliction with joy of the Holy Spirit.” Furthermore, Galatians 5:22 indicates that joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit.

All people need joy. As Christians, we have joy when we are filled with the love of God and the divine life. Love comes from life, and joy comes from love. The Spirit of God is the Spirit of the divine life, the divine love, and the divine joy...Therefore, we may have joy in the Holy Spirit, a joy that is of the Spirit...If we are in the Spirit, we shall be joyful with God and praise Him. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 894-895)

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The overcoming life that we live in the church today is the kingdom life, which is constituted of the joy of the Holy Spirit with righteousness and peace. If we are righteous and right toward others and toward God, we will have a peaceful relationship with others and with God. Thus, we will have joy in the Holy Spirit, proving that we are living in the reality of God’s kingdom and are under God’s rule and thereby have the practical church life. In Matthew 5, 6, and 7, in the decree of the constitution of the kingdom of the heavens, concerning the portrayal of the nature of the people of the kingdom of the heavens (5:1-12), the Lord Jesus concluded with this word: “Rejoice and exult, for your reward is great in the heavens.” This tells us that joy is an evidence of our living in the reality of the kingdom.

We need to rejoice, but it does not mean that we wait for some pleasant things to happen for us to rejoice. The indwelling Lord is the cause of our rejoicing, and the Holy Spirit who moves within us is the motivation of our constant rejoicing. If we live in the fellowship of the Triune God and experience and enjoy the Spirit, we will have the joy that is brought to us by the Spirit. (*Truth Lessons—Level Two*, vol. 4, pp. 60-61)

A sweet thought recorded in the Word of God is that God is not only near us but that He has even given Himself to us to be our enjoyment. This shows the intimate relationship God has with us.

Psalm 23 is a favorite psalm among God’s children; hence, it is difficult to find a Christian who does not know the words *the Lord is my Shepherd*. God, however, is not merely a Shepherd who leads us, protects us, and cares for us. God is more intimate than a shepherd. If He were merely a shepherd, He could care for us and shepherd us only in an outward way; He would be unable to enter into us to become a part of us. He could not become us. However, the Bible shows that God gives Himself to us for our enjoyment and works Himself into us. He can enter into us to be our life, our strength, our food, and our living water. He can meet the need of every part of our being. Those who have experienced God know that He is truly our enjoyment. We can enjoy God in His sovereign arrangements and provisions, and we can enjoy Him as the varied supply to our inward being.

When God is within us, He can supply the needs of our spirit, soul, and body. God can satisfy the needs of our spirit by supplying us from within our spirit. He can satisfy the needs of our soul, or our psyche, from within our soul. He can also satisfy the needs of our body by supplying us in our body. Although our God is invisible, untouchable, and intangible, those who have experienced God can testify that they enjoy Him in their spirit, in their soul, and even in their body. What a glorious blessing this is! (*CWWL, 1958*, vol. 1, “How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God,” pp. 365-366)

Further Reading: *Truth Lessons—Level Two*, vol. 4, lsn. 43

Wednesday 3/27

**Related Verses****Gen. 2:9**

9 And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**John 1:16-17**

16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

**Jer. 15:16**

16 Your words were found and I ate them, And Your word became to me The gladness and joy of my heart, For I am called by Your name, O Jehovah, God of hosts.

**John 1:14, 16-17**

14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

**2 Cor. 13:14**

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Gen. 2:7, 9**

7 Jehovah God formed man with the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

9 And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**Related Reading**

In the Bible there is a very important principle related to the first mention of a matter that sets an eternal governing principle for that matter throughout the rest of the Bible. The way a matter is spoken of the first time

determines the meaning of similar matters that are mentioned subsequently. In the first reference to God's relationship with man in the Bible, God presents Himself to man as food. This shows that God wants man to enjoy Him. After God created man, He placed him in front of the tree of life so that man would enjoy the fruit of that tree. The tree of life signifies God Himself. This shows that God wants to be man's enjoyment. God's first thought after creating man was for man to eat and drink, and the object of this eating and drinking was God Himself. (*CWWL*, 1958, vol. 1, "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God," p. 375)

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When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He repeatedly revealed that He was food for man to eat and enjoy.

The Lord performed a miracle, [feeding] five thousand with five loaves and two fish, and there was much left over. When people saw this, they thought that He was the greatest prophet, who would perform miracles among them and take care of them...This concept was absolutely wrong; hence, the Lord spoke a word to change their concept. He pointed out that they were seeking for food that perishes, food that is of no eternal value. He did not come to give man corruptible food, but He came to give man incorruptible food from heaven...The Lord explained that He is the food; He wanted to give Himself to them as their food for their enjoyment. It was as if He were saying, "It is not enough to know Me as the sovereign Lord who performs miracles...I am much more than these things. I will not only perform outward things...You need to know Me as the Creator who has come to be your food. I have given My flesh to you for food and My blood to you for drink so that I can enter into you. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, because this eternal life is just Me. If you eat Me and drink Me, I will enter into you, and spontaneously you will have eternal life."

According to the Bible, after creating Adam, God did not say, "You must worship Me in this way," or "You must serve Me in that way." On the contrary, after creating Adam, God placed him in front of the tree of life. God seemed to be saying, "Adam, come here. Just enjoy. I am the tree of life, and I am here for you to enjoy Me...I have no desire for you to serve or worship Me in

this or that way. I only want to present Myself to you as food. My only desire is for you to enjoy Me."

One day the tree of life came as the Word who became flesh, who tabernacled among us, full of grace and reality (John 1:14). Again He was placed in front of man as the tree of life so that man could "pick" the fruit from this tree. No one, however, knew that they could pick from this tree. In the four Gospels those who came to Him asked what they should do and which was the great commandment in the law (Matt. 19:16; 22:36). This was all they asked. But His answer was always the same: "I am the bread that came down from heaven...I want you to receive Me, to enjoy Me. I am the tree of life. Life is in Me. I am life, and I have come that men may have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10). I am like the tree of life that was in the garden of Eden...I want to dispense Myself into you. I want to be your food to enter into you and be your very life. My thought is simply that you would enjoy Me." (*CWWL*, 1958, vol. 1, pp. 375-377)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1963, vol. 4, "The Life and Way for the Practice of the Church Life," ch. 5

**Thursday 3/28**

#### *Related Verses*

**John 6:57**

57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

**1 Cor. 10:4**

4 And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.

**Neh. 8:8-10**

8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who helped the people understand said to all the people, This day is holy unto Jehovah your God; do not mourn or weep. For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said to them, Go your way; eat the fat, and drink the sweet wine, and send portions to him for whom nothing has been prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of Jehovah is your strength.

**John 15:4-5**

4 Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

5 I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

**Col. 2:6-7**

6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

**1 Pet. 1:8**

8 Whom having not seen, you love; into whom though not seeing Him at present, yet believing, you exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory,

#### *Related Reading*

The focus of our remembrance of the Lord is our eating and drinking of Him. The Lord said, "This is My body, which is given for you; this do unto the remembrance of Me...This cup is the new covenant established in My blood; this do, as often as you drink it, unto the remembrance of Me" (1 Cor. 11:24-25). The Lord's words clearly state that to remember Him is to receive Him as the One who was given for us and to receive all that He has accomplished.

Hence, every time we come to remember the Lord, we should not remember Him merely by meditating in our mind. We need to receive Him and all that He has accomplished in our spirit as our inward enjoyment and allow Him to mingle more with us. This is the true remembrance of the Lord.

The significance of bread-breaking is also the meaning of our Christian living. The Christian living is a life of eating, drinking, and enjoying the Lord day by day in order to allow Him to mingle with us. We should not

do this merely on the first day of the week when we come to the bread-breaking meeting. This should be our daily living. As saved ones, we live by eating and drinking the Lord. (*CWWL, 1959*, vol. 3, “Lessons for New Believers,” p. 144)

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God does not intend for us to do anything for Him. As God’s children, we need to change our concept and see that God’s only desire is to give Himself to us to be our enjoyment. The secret of the Christian life is not how much we work for Him, but how much we enjoy Him...We must learn this secret...We need to learn to simply turn our inner being to enjoy God. When we pray, there is no need for us to be concerned about our difficulties and burdens...We need to learn to come to God to enjoy and absorb Him, and forget about everything, even a child’s illness. If we forget, the Lord will not forget...The more we want Him to come and take care of a matter, the more He does not come. He knows our “Lazarus” is sick, but He does not answer our prayer...The more we insist, the more He waits until “Lazarus” finally dies, is buried, and begins to stink. This is the Lord. He has no intention for us to do anything for Him. His only intention is that we learn to absorb and enjoy Him.

Martha was always busy for the Lord. She did not know how to stop and absorb the Lord. We must learn to stop ourselves. In particular, when we pray, we must learn to stop our involvement in so many affairs...Whether our prayer is for half an hour or only ten minutes, we should absorb and enjoy the Lord. We should feed on Him until we are full. Let the children be sick. Let the difficulties remain. Let the burdens take care of themselves. The Lord knows all about these things. We should enjoy Him and be fed by Him. We should simply enjoy and absorb the Lord again and again. If we do this, we will be filled with God, and our face will shine. We will be full of the Lord’s presence. What a glory this will be!

Some elders are sorrowful elders. When they consider hall twenty-eight, they shake their head...When they come to the Lord in the morning, they should behold His beauty, absorb Him, receive Him, and enjoy Him. As they are fed by Him and are filled with Him,

their faces will shine. Then when they visit hall twenty-eight in the evening, all the brothers and sisters...will marvel at the shining face and say, “The countenance of this elder has changed. His face is no longer sad but shining. When he stands up to speak, the Lord is expressed.”...This is what it means to be a Christian. (*CWWL, 1958*, vol. 1, *How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God*, pp. 384-385)

Further Reading: *CWWL, 1988*, vol. 2, “Messages Given to the Working Saints,” ch. 7

<b>Friday 3/29</b>
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**Related Verses**

**Heb. 4:12**

**12** For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**Luke 1:46-47**

**46** And Mary said, My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**47** And my spirit has exulted in God my Savior;

**Prov. 29:18**

**18** Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

**Acts 26:19**

**19** Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

**Psa. 46:4-5**

**4** There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.  
**5** God is in the midst of her; she will not be moved; God helps her at the dawn of the morning.

**Psa. 36:7-9**

**7** How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Thus the sons of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.  
**8** They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.  
**9** For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

**Related Reading**

Our spirit needs to take the lead in enjoying the Lord...[Luke 1:46-47 is] describing the enjoyment of the Lord, and in the enjoyment of the Lord, our spirit has to take the lead. First, Mary’s spirit exulted in God; then her soul magnified the Lord. Her praise to God issued from her spirit and was expressed through her soul. But today we mostly use our soul first. We must learn to directly use our spirit and let the soul be a follower of the spirit. Our spirit must take the lead aggressively in enjoying the Lord. Our spirit should subdue our soul to make the soul its follower. (*CWWL, 1979*, vol. 1, “Basic Lessons on Life,” pp. 593-594)

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Colossians 1:12 says, “Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light.”...The allotted portion of the saints refers to Christ. Just as the good land of Canaan was the portion allotted to the children of Israel in the Old Testament, Christ is the allotted portion of the New Testament believers. Thus, we need to possess Him and partake of Him as our heavenly allotment, our heavenly portion.

We need a revelation to see the matter of the enjoyment of Christ, because it is not according to our natural concept. Our natural concept is that after we receive the Lord, we need to do something for Him and learn many doctrines concerning Him in the Bible. It is difficult for a new believer to have the thought that after he has received the Lord, he needs to continue his Christian life by enjoying the Lord...In order for us to be faithful, normal, and proper Christians, the primary matter that we need to take care of is not learning doctrines but enjoying the Lord. This needs to be a vision to us. When the sisters are raising their children, although they need to teach them many things, teaching is not their primary concern. After a sister has given birth to a child, her main focus is to feed her child. Although the education of the child is necessary, feeding is the child’s basic need. However, in traditional Christianity today more attention is paid to teaching than to feeding.

I believe that in His recovery the Lord will recover the believers’ enjoyment of Christ. The reason many

believers are weak today is not that they are short of teaching but that they are malnourished, short of nourishment. Many Christians are full of knowledge, yet they have little growth in life. Hence, they are full of criticism toward other believers.

Today we have many problems because we are short of Christ. We are short of the nourishment that comes from enjoying Christ. If we enjoy Christ day by day, we will not have any problems. The reason spouses have arguments with each other is that they are short of Christ. If a husband does not enjoy Christ, sooner or later he will run into problems with his wife. It is the same in the church life. As brothers and sisters in the church life, we need to adequately enjoy Christ; otherwise, we will have problems in the church life. The unique solution to all our problems is to enjoy Christ. When we enjoy Christ, all the negative elements and “germs” in our being are swallowed up, and our lack of all the positive elements and spiritual vitamins is filled up. In this way, all our problems are solved. However, if we stop enjoying Christ, after a week we will have many kinds of spiritual diseases. Christ is our daily nourishment, and we need to taste, eat, and partake of Him in a daily way. (*CWWL*, 1969, vol. 2, pp. 188-190)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msg. 46; *Truth Lessons—Level Three*, vol. 4, lsn. 55; *Truth Lessons—Level Two*, vol. 3, lsn. 32

**Saturday 3/30**

**Related Verses**

**1 Pet. 1:8**

8 Whom having not seen, you love; into whom though not seeing Him at present, yet believing, you exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory,

**Phil. 4:11**

11 Not that I speak according to lack, for I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content.

**Col. 1:12-13, 27**

12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,

**Col. 2:9, 16-17**

9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating and in drinking or in respect of a feast or of a new moon or of the Sabbath,

17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.

**Col. 3:1, 4, 11**

1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

**Related Reading**

The Lord is with us today (Matt. 28:20) but in a hidden, veiled way. His coming back will be His revelation, when He will be seen openly by all.

Although we have never seen the Lord Jesus, we love Him. At present we cannot see Him, yet we believe in Him...We love Him whom we have not seen because of believing, that is, because of the faith that has been infused into us through our hearing of the living word (Gal. 3:2).

According to 1 Peter 1:8, the believers “exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory.”...This joy is immersed in the Lord as glory; thus, it is full of the expression of the Lord. This joy is also unspeakable; it is a joy that is beyond our ability to utter...By believing into the Lord and loving Him, we obtain great joy. The normal condition of a Christian is to “exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory.” (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, pp. 3854-3855)

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Romans 14:17 says, “The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy

in the Holy Spirit.” Righteousness is toward ourselves, peace is toward others, and joy is toward God in the Holy Spirit. We need to be joyful in the spirit. A Christian must be a joyful person. This does not mean that our circumstances will be wonderful. It may actually mean that we are in a “furnace,” like the three friends of Daniel (Dan. 3:19-20, 25). They were in the blazing furnace, but they were still joyful. Our surroundings and circumstances may be miserable, but we ourselves must be joyful. If between us and God there is no joy, we are wrong. If we are right with God, there will always be joy, even if we are suffering. When the apostles Paul and Silas were put into prison, their surroundings were terrible, but they were joyful (Acts 16:23-25). To their feeling they were not in the jail but in God. To them, the jail was simply the representative of God, and they were in Him (Eph. 4:1). Therefore, they were joyful.

When we are burning in our spirit and joyful in the Holy Spirit, we enjoy God, reign as kings in life, walk in newness of life, and serve in newness of spirit. In our service we will not give people a feeling of oldness. Rather,...we will always give others a feeling of freshness and newness.

Our being new and fresh requires that we walk in the spirit and according to the spirit, set our mind on our spirit, be burning in spirit, and be joyful in the Holy Spirit. In this way we will boast in God and enjoy Him as our portion. We will spontaneously reign in life as kings, walk in newness of life, and serve in newness of spirit...All the matters mentioned in...Romans 12 through 16, are the things we will enjoy in our spirit. When we enjoy God in a burning and joyful spirit, we have all these matters. (*CWWL*, 1966, vol. 2, “The Divine Spirit with the Human Spirit in the Epistles,” pp. 273-274)

Today the reason some of the elderly saints are so lively is that they have the eternal life in them...In particular, we see many elderly saints in the meetings who welcome people with smiles and are full of vigor. What is real in them is manifested outwardly. They have a life in them that is a never-aging life. When this life is expressed in them, it becomes joy, because our Lord is the Lord of joy. There may be nothing in the outward environment to make us joyful, but the Lord who lives in us is our joy. We are joyful when we sing, and we are even more joyful when we testify for the Lord. The more

we open our mouths, the more joyful we are. Even by saying Amen or Hallelujah, our faces become glowing, shining, and full of joy. (*CWWL, 1987*, vol. 3, “Being Up to Date for the Rebuilding of the Temple,” p. 30)

Further Reading: *Life-study of 1 Peter*, msg. 6

<b>Lord’s Day 3/31</b>
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**Related Verses**

**Psa. 16:1-11**

1 Preserve me, O God, for I take refuge in You.

2 I say to Jehovah, You are my Lord; No good have I beyond You;

3 As for the saints who are on the earth, they are the excellent; All my delight is in them.

4 The sorrows of them who bartered for some other god will be multiplied; Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, Nor will I take up their names upon my lips.

5 Jehovah is the portion of my inheritance and of my cup; You maintain my lot.

6 The measuring lines have fallen on pleasant places for me; Indeed the inheritance is beautiful to me.

7 I will bless Jehovah, who counsels me; Indeed in the nights my inward parts instruct me.

8 I have set Jehovah before me continually; Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

9 Therefore my heart rejoices and my glory exults; Even my flesh dwells securely.

10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, Nor let Your Holy One see the pit.

11 You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

<b>Further Reading:</b>
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Further Reading: <i>Truth Lessons</i> , Level Two, Vol. 3, Lesson 32
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**Hymn: #717**

1 O let us rejoice in the Lord evermore,  
Though all things around us be trying,  
Though floods of affliction like sea billows roar,  
It’s better to sing than be sighing.

Then rejoice evermore, rejoice evermore,  
It is better to sing than be sighing:  
It is better to live than be dying;  
So let us rejoice evermore.

2 O let us rejoice in the Lord evermore,  
When the darts of the tempter are flying,  
For Satan still dreads, as he oft did of yore,  
Our singing much more than our sighing.

3 O let us rejoice in the Lord evermore,  
When sickness upon us is stealing,  
No cordial like gladness our strength can restore,  
For joy is the fountain of healing.

**Churchwide Truth Pursuit of Hebrews**

**Level 1—Hebrews Sequential Reading**

Scripture Reading and Copying: Heb. 2:11-18

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msgs. 9-10

**Level 2—Hebrews Topical Study**

Crucial Point: The Author of Our Salvation Made Perfect through Sufferings

Scripture: Heb. 2:5-10

Assigned Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews*, msg. 8

Supplemental Reading: None

Questions:

1. Why is it often mentioned in Scripture that Jesus was made a little inferior to the angels?
2. How and why did the perfect man Jesus need to be made perfect through sufferings?
3. How is Jesus the Author of our salvation?
4. Why was it necessary for Jesus to taste death on behalf of everything?