

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT JOY

GOD HIMSELF IS OUR JOY

“Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy.” (Psalm 43:4)

“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” (Psalm 16:11)

JOY IN GOD OUTSTRIPS ALL EARTHLY JOY

“You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.” (Psalm 4:7)

IF YOUR JOY IS IN GOD, NO ONE CAN TAKE YOUR JOY FROM YOU

“You have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.” (John 16:22)

THIS JOY IN GOD IS COMMANDED

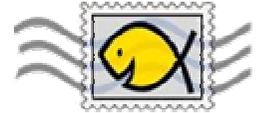
“Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalm 37:4)

“Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!” (Psalm 32:11)

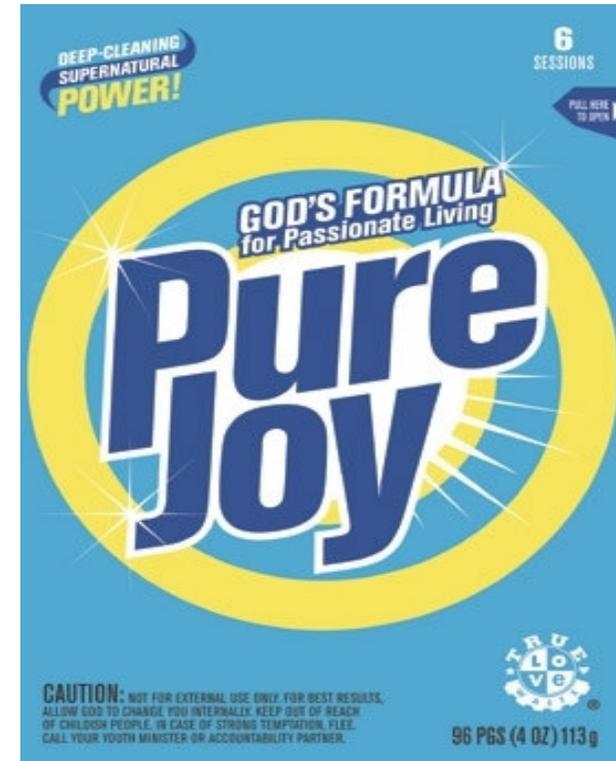
It's commanded because what is at stake is not just our joy but the glory of God, the honour and reputation of God.

If we do not rejoice in God – if God is not our treasure and our delight and our satisfaction, then he is dishonoured. His glory is belittled. His reputation is tarnished.

Therefore God commands our joy both for our good and for his glory.



NEHEMIAH



CHAPTER 8

“Grief over sin is not the end of the law, nor is it the beginning: It's the very important bit in the middle.”

NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 8

WHAT'S GOING ON?

(8:1-8) The wall, being finished, the people gather for the word of the Lord

(8:9-18) The people mourn and celebrate the feast of booths (tabernacles)

WHAT'S BEING SAID OR DONE?

KEY VERSE:

"Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat , drink the sweet and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."" (Neh 8:10)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? WHAT DOES THIS TEACH US?

HOW DO WE APPLY THIS TO OURSELVES?

SUMMARY