

# THE BEAUTY OF JOY AND SORROW

## The Beauty of Joy:

\_\_\_\_\_ from God give us reason for joy. (Ps 145:9,16)

\_\_\_\_\_ with faith in God gives us reason for joy. (Jas 1:2-4, 1 Pt 1:6-7)

Discovering \_\_\_\_\_ gives us reason for joy. (Ps 47:1-2)

God's promise of \_\_\_\_\_ gives us reason for joy. (Rom 15:13, 1 Pt 1:8-9)

## The Beauty of Sorrow:

Jesus was a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 53:3, Jn 11:33-35, Luke 19:41-42)

We are right to feel sorrow over the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in our \_\_\_\_\_. (Mic 1:8-9, Is 22)

We are right to feel sorrow over our \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_. (Rom 7:21-24, 2 Cor 7:10)

We are right to feel sorrow over the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 53:3)

**Psalm 145:9,16**

<sup>[9]</sup> The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

<sup>[16]</sup> You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. (ESV)

**James 1:2–4**

<sup>[2]</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>[3]</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>[4]</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (ESV)

**1 Peter 1:6–7**

<sup>[6]</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>[7]</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (ESV)

**Psalm 47:1–2**

<sup>[1]</sup> Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! <sup>[2]</sup> For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. (ESV)

**Romans 15:13**

<sup>[13]</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (ESV)

**1 Peter 1:8–9**

<sup>[8]</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>[9]</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (ESV)

**John 11:33–35**

<sup>[33]</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>[34]</sup> And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>[35]</sup> Jesus wept. (ESV)

**Luke 19:41–42**

<sup>[41]</sup> And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>[42]</sup> saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. (ESV)

**Micah 1:8–9**

<sup>[8]</sup> For this I will lament and wail;  
I will go stripped and naked;  
I will make lamentation like the jackals,  
and mourning like the ostriches.  
<sup>[9]</sup> For her wound is incurable,  
and it has come to Judah;  
it has reached to the gate of my people,  
to Jerusalem. (ESV)

**Romans 7:21–24**

<sup>[21]</sup> So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>[22]</sup> For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>[23]</sup> but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>[24]</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? (ESV)

**2 Corinthians 7:10**

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. (ESV)

**Isaiah 53:5**

But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed. (ESV)

**Isaiah 25:8**

He will swallow up death forever;  
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken. (ESV)

# The Beauty of Joy and Sorrow

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October 3, 2021

**Open:** What are some examples of things that bring you joy? What are some Scripture verses that speak of joy or gladness?

What are some examples of things that bring you sorrow? What are some Scripture verses that speak of sorrow or sadness?

**Read & Discuss:** John 16:20-22

1. The first part of verse 20 speaks of Christians weeping while the world rejoices at the death of Christ. What are ways that believers and unbelievers have different reasons for joy and sadness? How do you tend to cope with times of sadness when others around you are rejoicing?
2. The rest of verse 20 goes on to say there will come a time when our sorrow turns to joy, as in the example of a woman enduring the pain of childbirth and then later rejoicing when she sees her baby. What are some other examples of sorrow or suffering that is transformed to joy? How have you found focusing on the joy to come helpful in enduring suffering?

**Read & Discuss:** 1 Peter 1:6-9

3. Looking at verses 6-7, how would you explain why Peter encourages us to rejoice when going through trials? How does knowing there is a purpose to your sorrow or suffering help you to not only better endure it, but to even rejoice in it?
4. In verse 8 Peter makes clear that those who believe in Jesus should not only expect joy in the future, but should experience “inexpressible” joy now. How can we experience present joy in Jesus while living in a broken world?

**Read & Discuss:** Isaiah 25:8-9

5. Verse 8 gives several reasons that our future with God will be joyful. In this verse, where do you see evidence of both God’s grand, majestic power over the universe and His intimate, loving concern for each individual? What might it be like to live without any fear, sadness or shame?
6. In verse 9, all attention is called to God. What might it be like to spend eternity with God as He’s presented in these three passages? How does your joy in God—both present and future—shape how you respond to sorrow and suffering now?

**Pray:** Pray that we would be people who are able to rejoice even through sadness and suffering, knowing the “inexpressible” joy that awaits us.

## **John 16:20-22**

<sup>20</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup> When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. (ESV)

## **1 Peter 1:6-9**

<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (ESV)

## **Isaiah 25:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> He will swallow up death forever;  
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.  
<sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day,  
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.  
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” (ESV)