



LIVING LOGOS
MINISTRIES

THE LIVING LOGOS
TEACHING NEWSLETTER

November 2018

JOY EVERLASTING

Greetings, church!

If you have been reading our newsletters recently, you know of the release of my second full-length book entitled **The Epistle of Joy!** I am super-excited about this book because I see it as a goldmine on the subject of walking in the joy of the Lord!

Well, I am excited to announce that it is in! I received the first printing of The Epistle of Joy on October 22nd, and they look great! But most importantly, I believe the content inside the packaging truly holds the keys to unlocking a life of supernatural joy and will be used of the Lord to help His people walk in their inheritance. Amen!

You know, if there is one thing we could all agree upon, it would be that everyone is looking for joy in their life. I doubt that there is anything else atop the list of man's deepest longings and desires than possessing this one virtue. In the world today, countless multitudes turn to a variety of things that offer them what I would call "counterfeit joy." Some turn to drugs and alcohol in order to give themselves an escape from the pains of reality; others turn to less destructive things such as their careers, hobbies, or relationships in a quest for fulfillment, happiness, and contentment. But the truth is, whether they realize it or not, all are looking for just one thing: the genuine and perpetual joy that only the Lord Jesus Christ can give them.

Those of us who have received Jesus as our Lord and Savior already and have received His joy know this very well. For many of us, when we were born-again, a joy immediately flooded our soul. It was as if we were baptized in the very essence of joy and peace, thereby causing a complete change in our attitude towards life. But as is the case with most legitimately born-again believers, the joy that we experienced initially in our salvation is oftentimes not consistently maintained throughout our walk with God. I believe that the reason for this is that we do not only experience the joy of the Lord when we initially receive Jesus as our Lord, but we also experience this joy as we continue to allow Jesus to reign in our hearts throughout our Christian walk.

You see, as I am sure most of us who have been saved for some time have experienced, there is a tendency for the joy that we tasted in the beginning of our salvation experience to lessen as we progress in our Christian walk. Some have, in their ignorance, attributed the joy we experience in the beginning of our relationship with Christ to a "special grace" that we are given when we are baby Christians. Therefore, many erroneously believe that as we grow out of that infant stage, God removes this special grace and requires us to walk on our own. I could not disagree with this popular Christian philosophy any more emphatically!

No, I believe that the reason we experienced the joy of the Lord so much more in the beginning of our walk is because we chose to experience it more. It is not that the joy that filled our hearts at salvation was God endowing us with more joy; rather, it was because we made certain decisions at that time which positioned us to obtain the joy that has always been available. Just take a moment to consider your walk with God in the beginning when your eyes were opened to His love and salvation. In those days, no one could keep you from being involved in your church or being active in various Bible studies or prayer groups. You were not involved in these things out of obligation; you actually loved being involved in them because your heart was inclined towards the things of God. You also joyfully read and studied your Bible because the revelation you were receiving was fresh and exciting. Your prayer times were also Spirit-filled to where the time just flew by. Moreover, your conversations with other people revolved around the Lord too, didn't they? You loved to talk about what you were learning about Him and the truth you were receiving from Him.

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Now I understand that what I just described might not perfectly describe your early experience with God, but I would venture to say that you experienced some of these things either when you were saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, or had that “Aha!” moment with God. My point, however, is that something seemed to happen between the time you first tasted that joy to when life got in the way. Perhaps a more seasoned Christian even told you that this was to be expected. The truth is, however, that your joy began to diminish when your focus shifted from God and His Kingdom to yourself and your own kingdom. When that happens, it does not matter how long you have been a Christian or how much joy you have experienced in the past, your joy will most certainly wane.

This is not something we should condemn ourselves over either. It is a natural progression that can easily take place in all of us because of the weakness of our flesh and because the lure of this world ever seeks to pull us down from those mountain-top experiences with God. But the truth I want to instill in you through this book is that it does not have to be this way. I repeat, it does not have to be this way! It is possible to maintain the same level of joy that we possessed in the beginning of our walk with Christ all the way to the end. This is what the Bible teaches us—that we can have joy unspeakable and full of glory all the way from the beginning of our faith to the end of our faith (see First Peter 1:8-9). Yes, Jesus provided us with joy everlasting, not just joy in the beginning. Hallelujah!

So, the question that begs to be answered is this: If we have this everlasting joy on the inside of us, why do we walk in it so inconsistently? If we were honest about it, we would have to admit that we have not always experienced the level of joy that the Bible teaches is available to us. But why? What keeps us from consistently experiencing the joy of the Lord as we should? The Bible gives us some specific reasons for this, and that is precisely what our new book, The Epistle of Joy is all about. So, what I do in this book is I take you on a journey through the apostle Paul’s Epistle to the Philippians and answer this big question: How can we walk in fullness of joy all the time? Church, this 2,000-year-old letter to the Church of Philippi is more than just an epistle that contains many references to joy; it is also a Holy Spirit-inspired handbook that contains the keys to unlocking that life of joy that is available for all of God’s children! That is why I am so excited to be able to put these truths into your hands.

So, I encourage you to order yourself a copy today, and even consider blessing someone you love with the “Gift of Joy” this Christmas. When you do, you and your loved ones can buckle your seatbelt and get ready for a ride through the apostle Paul’s “Epistle of Joy.” Yes, open your heart to read God’s manual for staying full of one of the greatest gifts He has given us—His everlasting joy. Amen!

The information of how to order it is included on the enclosed insert, or you can simply go to our website @ www.treydickerson.com and order it via credit or debit card. We are offering it to you for a gift of any amount because our heart at LLM is to get God’s Word into your hands at all costs and be a blessing to the body. Thanks for your interest in our ministry!

Victoriously,



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