

Joy

Psalm 5:11-But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

The Psalmist discovered and clearly proclaimed the existence of joy in the Lord. Bountiful joy resides firmly in believers putting their faith and trust in the Lord. Active and faithful seekers of the Lord God experience residual joy in their lives. The Lord God is confirmed as the inexhaustible source of joy for serious believers. Joy in the Lord will not be stifled, impaired or muted by worldly occurrences.

Psalm 16:11-Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Following the straight and narrow path defined by the Lord leads to eternal joy. Vigilance, strong faith and commitment enable believers to travel the joyful path. The Lord abiding in the heart, mind and soul replenishes the joy in everyday life. Hunger in the soul motives believers to seek the Lord as the greatest source of joy. The joy rooted in the Lord results in world events being put in proper perspective.

Psalm 21:1-The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!

World leaders benefit consistently by seeking wisdom, peace and joy in the Lord. The Lord provides immeasurable strength, wisdom and joy for attentive leaders. Leaders placing faith and trust in the Lord do not feel alone when facing adversity. History records joyful victories of leaders faithful to the Lord in their actions. The Psalmist offers wisdom and lessons of joy for leaders of every generation.

Psalm 27:6-And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Reach out to the Lord at all times, in all places and in all circumstances to find joy. Adversity strengthens believers with hearts, minds and souls joyful in the Lord. The Lord insulates firm believers from having their joy in the Lord being tainted. Church history reveals martyrs remaining joyful in very adverse circumstances. Contemporary believers are inspired by the joyful witnesses in Christ's Church.

Psalm 30:5-For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

Faith combined with patience and trust in the Lord God yields everlasting joy. Repentance and humility are essential in the believer seeking joy in the Lord. Wise believers look to the saints and martyrs to learn the proven paths to joy. God's Holy Church proclaims the lasting lessons necessary for heartfelt joy. Joy in the Lord is distinct in experience, origin and effect in the heart and soul.

Venerable Georgius, Bishop of Mitylene. April 7/20, 2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic