

"Blessed is the man that walketh NOT in the counsel of the ungodly, NOR standeth in the way of sinners, NOR sitteth in the seat of the scornful. BUT His Delight Is In The Law Of The LORD; and in His Law doth he MEDITATE DAY AND NIGHT." Psalm 1:1-2 KJV



In the tempest of temptation tormenting the world around them, believers who find their delight in knowing and doing God's Word are happy indeed! "Great Peace have they which love Thy Law and nothing shall offend them. If ye KNOW these things, happy are ye if ye DO them." The seething sea of satanic seduction luring unbelievers to their death cannot touch the saint who delights in God's Word. The unseen forces of evil spirits want men to deny their very existence, because an unseen enemy is sure destruction. Denial and deception are the stocks and bonds which yoke men to the load of their own lust, blinding them to the Truth of the Glorious Liberty found only in trusting obedience to the Creator. "The Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, [and] Temperance." Are these not the essence of pleasure? Keeping our life on the correct course requires constant correction, but "no chastening (correction) for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the Peaceable Fruit of Righteousness unto them which are Exercised thereby." Dad spanked us for leaving the yard, because he knew the dangers of the street and the world beyond were far worse. His chastening motivated us to obey and kept us safe. It may be the fear of God that prompts your obedience, but it's His Love that keeps you safe! What motivates your spirit? What "turns your crank" so to speak? What power fuels your life? Self-gratification will expend itself and die for it is as temporal and finite as the carnal flesh that demands it. Faith will only grow stronger, because it "is the GIFT of God: Not of works lest any man should boast." What empowers a man to sing hymns while being burned at the stake? It is not humanly possible! Only God's Grace imparts such Liberty! The closer you are to God, the less life's trials impact your Joy, because "the Joy of the Lord is your strength." Did you ever wonder where the Apostles, William Tyndale, John Bunyan, David Livingston, Hudson Taylor, David Brainerd, Jim Elliot, John Adams, and many more like them, got their impossible strength? They were mere mortals like you and I who delighted in the Law of God. They loved God more than life itself, because they knew their "life is hid with Christ in God!" They knew that to love God is to love Life. Daniel Webster wrote, "To be like Christ is to be a Christian." Jim Elliot wrote, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." Hudson Taylor wrote, "It is the consciousness of the threefold Joy of the Lord, His Joy in Ransoming us, His Joy in Dwelling within us as our Saviour and Power for Fruitbearing and His Joy in Possessing us, as His Bride and His Delight; it is the consciousness of this Joy which is our real strength. Our joy in Him may be a fluctuating thing: His Joy in us Knows no change."

Our power comes from Sacred Store,
The God of Life that saints adore,
Our Joy abounds when He is near,
Of evil men there is no fear. –CGP

To trust in God and not walk with Him is like buying a new car and staying home! People fall in love with those with whom they spend time. You will never love God nor His Word unless you spend time in It and with Him.

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the Mark for the Prize of the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13-14 KJV