

“The Fruit of the Spirit is Joy...”

Gal. 5:22-23

Introduction

- I. “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the spirit” (Gal. 5:26).
- II. Christians behaviors should be in direct contrast to those of the world.
- III. We must be actively producing “the fruit of the Spirit”, part of which is “joy” (Gal. 5:22; Rom. 14:17).

Discussion

- I. What is “joy”?
 - A. The Greek word is “chara”, which entails the idea of “joy”, “gladness”, and/or “delight”.
 - B. The verb form of “chara” is “chairein”, which is usually translated as “to rejoice”.
 - C. “Chara” is similar to the Greek word for grace, “charis”.
 1. Joy is proportional to the amount, or believed amount, of grace that is extended.
 2. Considering the grace that God has bestowed, we should be extremely joyful (John 15:11; 1 Pet. 1:6-8; Phil. 4:4).
- II. What produces “joy” in Christians?
 - A. Faith will produce joy (Rom. 15:13; John 15:11; 17:13).
 - B. Obedience to God will produce joy (Acts 8:5-8, 35-38).
 - C. Forgiveness will produce joy (Psm. 32:1-5, 10-11; Psm. 51:7-12; Rom. 5:1-2, 10-11).
 - D. Fellowship will produce joy (Philemon 7; 2 Cor. 7:7; Phil. 4:10; 2 John 12).
 - E. Faithfulness of others will produce joy (Acts 15:3; 3 John 4; cf. 1 Thess. 2:19-20).
- III. “Joy” defeats worries, doubts, and fears (Matt. 6:25-34; 14:27-31).

Conclusion

- I. As Christians, we should be people of joy.
- II. “The fruit of the Spirit” is joy.