

The Great Exchange Pt. 4 - Grief For Joy

Isaiah 61:1-3, The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion - to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, **the oil of joy instead of mourning**, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

The great exchange provides grief for joy.

1 Thessalonians 5:16, Be joyful always...

John 15:11, I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!

God expects us to steward this joy.

Galatians 4:15, What has happened to all your joy

Romans 14:17, For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit...

How This Exchange Works

1. Joy is the result of trusting God.

Romans 15:13, May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him...

2. Answered prayer makes joy complete.

John 16:24, Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

3. Joy contributes to our health and well-being.

Proverbs 17:22, A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

4. Joy comes through ministry.

1 Thessalonians 2:19, For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? 20 Indeed, you are our glory and joy.

Psalms 126:6, He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

5. Joy is found in God's presence.

Psalms 16:11, You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

6. Joy makes us strong.

Nehemiah 8:10, "Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

7. Joy is found in God's Word.

Psalms 19:8, The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

8. Joy is found in peacemaking.

Proverbs 12:20, There is deceit in the hearts of those who plot evil, but joy for those who promote peace.

9. Joy is found in obedience.

John 15:10-11, If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Isaiah 12:3, With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

