

Full Of Joy

*“I am coming to you now,
but I say these things while I am still in the world,
so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.”
John 17:13 (NIV)*

Many things can make a person's heart joyful. Such a trivial thing as hearing a funny story can bring a smile to the face and happiness to the heart. But our verse today is not talking about transient joy, instead Jesus is speaking of the joy that lasts, the joy that stays when the hard times come.

Our Lord is about to depart from His beloved followers and He knows very well that His absence will bring them sorrow (John 16:5-6). He constantly comes back again and again to the matter of His departure in this Upper Room Discourse (John 14-17) and tells them things to stabilize their hearts and thoughts.

Joy in the Christian life is not based on circumstances that surround us. Joy in the Christian life is gained and sustained by paying close attention to the teaching of our Lord Himself.

In John 17:13 Jesus makes it clear that He is speaking certain things before He leaves His followers in order that they may have the full measure of His joy within. As you read carefully this discourse in John 14-17 you will find rich teaching from Jesus calculated to comfort and strengthen you for the challenges of life in this world.

May you find time today to read over these four chap-

ters. You shall be richly rewarded for your effort. Pray as you read and ask the Lord to fill your heart with the joy that comes from believing this amazing teaching.

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