



האם ישנו  
חג חג חג חג  
CHRISTMAS?



A BETTER, PERSISTENT JOY





MONEY



SEX



POWER

We need a deeper **peace**,  
a stronger **hope**, and a  
persistent **joy**.

1. The differences between **abiding joy** and moments of happiness.

“Happiness without joy is a masquerade, and joy without happiness is a spiritualized lie.”

— MIKE MASON

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1. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ABIDING JOY AND MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS.

– Intensity

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- Intensity
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- Complexity

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Joseph her husband was a **RIGHTEOUS MAN**. Because he **DIDN'T WANT TO HUMILIATE HER**, he decided to call off their engagement **QUIETLY**.

**ΜΑΤΤΑΙΩΣ 1:18-25** CEB

<sup>20</sup> As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him **IN A DREAM** and said, “Joseph son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the Child she carries was **CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT**.”

**ΜΑΤΤΑΙΩΣ 1:18-25** CEB

<sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a Son, and **YOU WILL CALL HIM JESUS**, because He will **SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS.**" <sup>22</sup> Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

**ΜΑΤΤΗΑΨ 1:18-25** CEB

<sup>23</sup> Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a Son, And they will call Him, Emmanuel. (Emmanuel means “God with us.”)

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he didn’t have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a Son. Joseph called Him Jesus.

מַטְתֵּי 1:18-25 CEB

<sup>9</sup> When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, **THEY WERE FILLED WITH JOY.**

מַטְתֵּהוּ 2:9-12 CEB

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<sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the Child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, **they honored Him.** Then they opened their treasure chests and **presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.** <sup>12</sup> Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

ΜΑΤΤΑΙΕΨ 2:9-12 CEB

Persistent joy  
expects difficulty  
& persistent joy  
is purposeful.

2. Persistent joy  
expects  
difficulties.

46 Mary said, “With all my heart I glorify the  
Lord! 47 In the depths of who I AM I REJOICE  
IN GOD MY SAVIOR.

LUKE 1:46-47 CEB

<sup>34</sup> Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “This Boy is assigned to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that generates opposition <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed.  
**AND A SWORD WILL PIERCE YOUR INNERMOST BEING TOO.”**

**LUKE 2:34-35** CEB

## 2. PERSISTENT JOY EXPECTS DIFFICULTIES.

– We don't ignore or suppress, we **acknowledge** with **faith** and **hope**.

17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am GLAD and REJOICE with you all.

18 LIKEWISE you also should be GLAD AND REJOICE with me.

18- לול:ב סחאקקולקו

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<sup>18</sup> We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:18 CEB

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<sup>22</sup> Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and condemn your name as evil because of the Human One.<sup>23</sup> Rejoice when that happens! Leap for joy because you have a great reward in heaven. Their ancestors did the same things to the prophets.

LUKE 6:22-23 CEB

2. PERSISTENT JOY EXPECTS DIFFICULTIES.

– Can you really choose joy?

<sup>2</sup> I entreat [**URGE, PLEAD, IMPLORE**] Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to **agree in the Lord**.  
<sup>3</sup> Yes, I ask you also, true companion, **help** these women, who have **LABORED** side by side with me **in the gospel** together with Clement and the rest of **my fellow workers**, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup> **REJOICE** in the Lord always; **again I will say, REJOICE**.

PHILIPPIANS 4:7-8

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3. Persistent joy  
is purposeful.

<sup>10</sup> In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

LUKE 15:10 CEB

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<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, we were **separated from you** for a while physically but **not in our hearts**. We made every effort in our desire to see you again face-to-face. <sup>18</sup> We wanted to come to you—I, Paul, tried over and over again—and satan stopped us.

1 THESS 2:17-20

CEB

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19 What is our **HOPE, JOY, or CROWN** that **WE CAN BRAG ABOUT** in front of our Lord Jesus when he comes? **ISN'T IT ALL OF YOU?** 20 **YOU ARE OUR GLORY AND JOY!**

1 THESS 2:1-20

CEB

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4. Persistent joy  
has a singular  
Source.



<sup>13</sup> May the **GOD OF HOPE** fill you with **ALL JOY AND PEACE** in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in **HOPE**.

ROMANS 15:13 ESV

5. Let's fix our eyes  
on the Source of  
our joy.

**21** When a woman gives birth, she has pain because her time has come. But when the child is born, she no longer remembers her distress **BECAUSE OF HER JOY** that a child has been born into the world. **22** In the same way, you have sorrow now; but I will see you again, and you will be overjoyed. **NO ONE TAKES AWAY YOUR JOY.**

**JOHN 16:21-22** CEB

<sup>2</sup> looking to **JESUS**, the **FOUNDER/AUTHOR**  
and **PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH**, who for the  
**JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM** endured  
the **cross**, despising the **shame**, and is seated  
at the **right hand** of the **throne of God**.

**HEBREWS 12:2** ESV

