



Joy In All Life's Seasons

Ecclesiastes 2:24 – 3:15

New Year's Day

Pastor Tyler Hanson

January 1, 2012

1. Joy is a decision.
(Ecclesiastes 2:24 & 3:13))
2. Joy is a gift from God.
(Ecclesiastes 2:24-26 & 3:13)
3. Joy is a gift to those who seek God.
(Ecclesiastes 2:26 & 3:12)
4. Every activity can bring joy in the right time and place.
(Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 11)
5. Some futility cannot be avoided in life.
(Ecclesiastes 3:2-8)
6. Some activities come by choice; others by God's providence.
(Ecclesiastes 3:2-8)
7. Finding profit or purpose is not our end goal.
(Ecclesiastes 3:9 & 10)
8. Our true end is eternity with God.
(Ecclesiastes 3:11)
9. God's work is unfathomably vast and incomprehensibly eternal.
(Ecclesiastes 3:14 & 15)

So... rejoice and do good!

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. These week we will be examining a few of life's seasons and activities as mentioned in Ecc. 3:1-8. Take a moment and read that passage again. What seasons listed apply to your life currently? What are you doing to enjoy this season? What are you doing that Paul would consider "Kicking at the goads"?

Tuesday. A time for rest is a time that often does not exist on our clock. Do you set aside time every week to slow down, to personally draw near to the Lord, and to rest? It's a little thing called a Sabbath and just as God calls us to times of intense activity, He also calls us to times of intense inactivity.

Wednesday. A time to weep. For many of us we want to rush through this time and "just get it done". Is there a loss in your life that you have overlooked in times past? Is now perhaps the time to mourn it? It could even be the loss of a job or a pet or a co-worker. Often small losses can gradually build up over time. Though we would feel silly lamenting them at the time, the sorrow can build up until we are willing to acknowledge them.

Thursday. Silence is golden. Probably because it is so rare. We live in a day and age of picketing against injustice and placing our individual rights where the entire community can see it. But there is a time to remain silent. Sometimes silence brings insight, perspective or prudent second thought.

Friday–Saturday. Next Sunday Pastor Lyle picks up our series in Galatians with 4:12-20. Pray for him as he prepares and as you prepare to worship together.

© 2012 Tyler Hanson