



Week 14: Joy of the Redeemed

**Isaiah 35:10 (NIV)**

“and those the Lord has rescued will return.  
They will enter Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy will crown their heads.

In the Old Testament, where we get our Jesse Tree stories, we can read a lot about the Joy of being part of God’s family. Apparently, the Hebrew writers had fifteen different words for Joy, and they appear more than 100 times.

So, long before Jesus, people celebrated the Joy of walking with God.

Remember David, the one who defeated the giant Goliath with a slingshot, who was best friends with Prince Jonathan, and became a great king?

David sings this to God in a Psalm:

‘My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices...  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

So Jesus’ family was already joyful.

But the prophet Isaiah is predicting that the Savior, the Messiah, will bring a special new kind of Joy - The Joy of God coming to earth to save the world.

The savior that we are expecting will redeem us- bring us closer to God, forever.

Isaiah writes,

“ and those the Lord has rescued will return.  
They will enter Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy will crown their heads.  
Gladness and joy will overtake them,  
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.”

So as Christmas comes closer, we especially remember our Joy that the birth of Jesus brings each of us and the whole world closer to God, always.

# Gratitude and Joy

L R W X T A E B W J T V W P Q H A P P I N E S S  
 Q V C U D K I A I W U S U F F I C I E N C Y W G  
 G F N U D V P A S L P S X M G D L W Z H H F T Q  
 M H R Y M A T Y D P J X O Y C M A U K R Y O J J  
 V J A H T V G V O B L Z C H R R P F F Q V S X X  
 W G M X I I J T M P C N W D W J P O F K I G K B  
 R R C U D G C R I F S O I D I E R R U F N V Q P  
 K A T K E N H R X Y X I N H U Q E G L H Z A R K  
 R T L U I I I C A G G T S H J B C J T T G U H L  
 L I U N X C Y G S C S A P M U L I E M I A R S T  
 P T F H N I P K S X S L I X Q M A G P A W E X P  
 J U E L H O K L E I Y I R T H S T H U F U H K U  
 U D T C E J K J N I Y B A F E L I H T T O X T Q  
 X E A L L E L L D Y X I Q V H O H R S R Z N Q  
 Q S R I E R U N N Q X J I K D E N I A J U K X T  
 F K G W I J B F I F M W O L J P V G K B S R U C  
 D C I N D H Z S K O B B N V P G Z E V O N O T Z  
 L C M S U G T I R S O I R A K A M V C L L Q A E  
 U N O I T C A F S I T A S A S E X N V A J W Q X  
 Y O T C H A I R O E H P B Z B K G G M U R V Y B  
 Z Q H M V G D D V B A J R G V O T Q Y R Z G U P  
 U N N X B I Z O H X T Z T M V Q R U L C X R F D  
 F Q V A G I L B R V C D T F C Q E T M W U R L D  
 W H O L E H E A R T E D N E S S I H V O T M S T

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|--------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| jubilation   | rejoicing        | kindness    | appreciation |
| satisfaction | thankful         | grateful    | wisdom       |
| virtue       | makarios         | chairo      | inspiration  |
| faith        | trust            | sufficiency | love         |
| scarcity     | wholeheartedness | grace       | happiness    |
| gratitude    | joy              |             |              |