

Some Reasons for Christians to be Happy

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Christians should be the happiest people in the world. Paul told Christians to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4). The Hebrews writer encouraged the Jews who converted to Christianity to be content with the things they had (Heb. 13:5). We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1). We are free from sin (Rom. 6:18). The love of God is with us (Rom. 5:5). While there are many other reasons for the Christian to be happy, this list is a good refresher on why we should be happy in this life.

We are to rejoice in the Lord. Christians are called by this name because we are followers of Jesus the Christ, who died for us. The Messiah was sent to seek and save the lost. He became the ultimate sacrifice for us (Luke 19:9-10). On the first day of the week we gather to sing praises to our heavenly Father for the blessings He has given us, and the plan of salvation that He put in place. The reason the Christian is to be happy every day is because we have another day to rejoice in the Lord. We can rejoice by praising His name through prayer, by giving Him public credit for all we accomplish, or by being a humble servant in helping others. We rejoice because we can do all these things.

When we rejoice in the Lord, we recognize and exhibit an attitude of contentment. We are not constantly in a mind of covetousness. Luke reminds us to avoid this practice (Luke 12:15). The Christian finds happiness in the life we have in Christ and not the material things we enjoy. We are content with all we have. and to be called Christians.

Being content brings peace to our lives. Being in peace with God means we understand whose will we are to follow. We are to let the peace of God rule in our hearts (Col. 3:15). Yes, we will have trials and tribulations in an imperfect world. There is suffering, but when we understand that someday we are going to a place that promises there will be no sorrow, it should bring a measure of peace that we can overcome anything through our faith in God. Having this inner peace in the good times will sustain us during the bad times. I imagine you see or can think of loved ones or friends that go through trying times and yet project an attitude of peace and happiness. This causes those in the world to wonder how someone can have that attitude. It is because the peace of God rules in their hearts.

Having this peace comes from the knowledge that we have become free of sin through obediently following the teaching of Jesus and the will of our Heavenly Father. We are to stand fast in the liberty in which Christ made us free from the bondage of sin. This is a bondage to which we must not return. We know, as children of God, we can repent when we stumble and remain free of the bondage of sin as we go through this life (I John 1:9).

The opportunity to be free comes from the love God has for us. God's love is unconditional. We need to have the same love for God and the souls of men. We should show agape love daily. It should make Christians the happiest people in the world.