



REJOICE WITH
JOY THAT IS
INEXPRESSIBLE

1 Peter 1:8-9

May the Lord use these pages to strengthen your faith, sharpen your discernment, and draw you closer to Him.

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Scripture

“Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

1 Peter 1:8-9

Peter opens his letter to the “elect exiles” across Asia Minor. The designation ‘elect exiles’ is translated in the King James Version as “scattered strangers” and the New Living Translation translates this a little clearer as “God’s chosen people who are living as foreigners...” The Greek word is **parepidemos**, which means ‘resident foreigner.’

The letter is addressed to believers, both Jew and Gentile, who are living in a world in which they do not conform, a world to which they are strangers, and a world that has brought them many trials. Yet, Peter says, “rejoice with joy...”

Let’s look at the broader passage, 1 Peter 1:3-9:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

Cross reference Romans 8:24-25, “For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”

For further study, read John 20:24-29

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What it Means

Peter is describing something that doesn't quite make sense. These believers are suffering. They've never seen Jesus. And yet they rejoice with a joy too big for words, a joy that is full of glory.

Peter explains how that's possible. They rejoice because their souls are saved...because of their faith.

Your outcome is secured. Your trials are temporary. Your salvation is permanent. Rooted in Christ. By faith.

Though you have not seen him...

WORD STUDY

The Greek word for “rejoice” in this passage is **agalliao** (ag-al-lee-ah'-o). It means to be exceedingly glad or to jump for joy.

The Greek word for “inexpressible” is **aneklaetos** (an-ek-lal'-ay-tos) and it means unspeakable. This word only appears once in the Bible. It speaks of a joy that can barely be described.

The Greek word for “obtaining” is **komizo** (kom-id'-so). It means to receive for oneself, to carry off — with the sense of receiving what has been promised or earned. This is describing something currently being received...not just something that will come in the future.

Studying the original language in the verses can add a deeper meaning to the passage. Translators use words that work in today's language, but the words were chosen deliberately when these passages were written. You read “rejoice with joy” but the author wants you to know that the joy is so immense it can not be described. You want to jump up and down and glorify God.

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Discern the Truth

The salvation of your soul. The outcome of your faith. Happiness is the result of circumstances working out or efforts being rewarded. But, joy comes from somewhere deeper. From something you cannot see. Joy comes from an outcome that you have already obtained, but have yet to experience.

Joy is not the absence of trials and hardship. Joy comes from the presence of Christ and it is yours when you live in Christ.

People who are unsure of their faith or turning away from God will use hardships to justify their doubting. ‘If God were real, this wouldn’t be happening to me.’ or ‘A loving God would never let me suffer.’

When you live out your faith in Christ, you don’t need proof. You know without seeing. You know that you will suffer trials “for a little while” on this earth and you know that the glory is in the eternal reward obtained through your faith in Christ.

While living as ‘scattered strangers’ during our time on earth, there will be happy times and there will be times of sorrow and times of frustration. But, there can also be joy, always, if you believe in the one who created you and you know where your story will end.

No matter the season or circumstance, ‘rejoice with joy...for the outcome of your faith is the salvation of your soul.’

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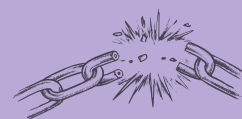
1 Peter 1:8-9

Observe & Apply

You don't need to see Jesus face to face to know that He is real. Believe in Him and rejoice. In the day-to-day moments, we get busy and may forget that we have the promise of Christ. In the difficult seasons, we may find ourselves doubting whether the love of Christ is enough. We do have it and it is enough.

- Think about the people around you — do you know someone who is filled with this kind of joy? Someone who is genuinely living in Christ with the joy of knowing the outcome of his or her faith? Do you think others see this in you? Why or why not?
- What usually steals your joy the fastest? Is it other people's opinions, day to day frustrations like your list of chores and projects, financial, health, or something else?
- If you carried your love of Christ with you all day, every day, how differently would your life look? What influence could you have on others if you lived with the joy of believing without seeing?

You may not see Him, but you can still love Him and rejoice that He is real.



I launched EnsnaredLife.com with a desire to curate honest, truth-telling content alongside simple, purposeful things that strengthen a woman’s walk with Christ or just add a little sunshine into the day. I am not a theologian or a professional blogger. I just wanted to learn something new while seeking wisdom and discernment every single day.

I value any time when I can sit alone, or in a small group, and study God’s word, but I really wanted something that I could truly grab onto — something deeper than a quick devotional, more meaningful than what’s usually on the shelf, yet still doable in the middle of real life. Most of all, I wanted it to be honest, without watering down or ignoring hard truths.

After much prayer about where to take this project, these **Daily Moments of Discernment** are the result. I pray that these short, standalone moments point you straight back to Scripture and help you live **Safe in Christ** — free from the snares that easily entangle us (Proverbs 29:25).

Thank you for supporting this project and thank God for the inspiration to create it.

Unless otherwise noted:

- All scripture citations are taken from the 2001 ESV translation.
- Word studies and cross-references are from the Crossway ESV Study Bible, the Expository Dictionary of Bible Words, or the e-Sword Bible app.
- Interpretations are my own, guided first by prayer and then by the many reference books and Bible translations on my shelf and, when helpful, an internet search to check a fact.

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