

# RESTORE the JOY

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**Main scriptures:** Psalm 51 : 12; 2 Samuel 16: 1- 22; 2 Samuel 11: 1-22; 2 Samuel 12: 1- 12

**Supporting scriptures:** 1 Samuel 16: ; Psalm 16: 11; Psalm 32: 1-5; Ephesians 1: 4; Deuteronomy 5: 21;

Notes:

The Joy of thy salvation. This Psalm was penned by a man after God's heart named David. He was chosen by God after Saul rebelled against the word of God. Saul decided to lean on his own understanding, than to acknowledge God in all his ways and ultimately Saul lost favour in the eyes of God. He was rejected by God. Saul who was the first king when Israel decided they wanted a king, the Lord had to speak to the Prophet not to feel bad because the people rejected God. God allowed the people to get what they wanted. When Saul was rejected by God being in the post as king, God spoke to Samuel and said Samuel you have mourned enough over Saul. It makes no sense in mourning anymore because I have rejected him. So fill your flask with oil and go to Jesse because I have selected one of his sons to be my king - God's ultimate choice. Samuel went to the house of Jesse and prepared a sacrifice but God moved in the midst of the worship. Samuel looked at the sons and thought surely this is Gods anointed but God said I don't look at the outward appearance I Look on the heart. Of all the sons there none were selected by God and Samuel asked is there another son you have? When they saw David the oil flowed and he was anointed. It is God's ultimate choice - there is nothing we can do to qualify ourselves. He chose us in him before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1: 4)

I want us to understand the humble beginning of this young man David. He is anointed as King but not yet in the office. He would play his harp unto the Lord for Saul - David is a man after his own heart.

In the midst of the enemy rising up against the children of God Saul has no connection with God and starts to lose on the battlefield and the men decide that the ark of the covenant needs to be on the battlefield with them and they will be victorious. Eli gave them the ark of the covenant and while they were on the battlefield they Lost the ark, Saul died his servants died and the Ark representing the presence of God was gone into the hands of the enemy.

2 Samuel 6 : 1- 22

After the philistines had the ark of the covenant the presence of the Lord acted against them and then they got rid of the ark and it was in the house of Obed Edom. 7 months outside of the land of Israel the ark was absent.

The ark represents joy and deliverance and hope but it was missing. The bible tells us that David decided to retrieve the ark and bring it back to the holy land. David gathered all the elite troops.

While they were bringing the ark, the ox stumbled and Uzzah touched the ark and God killed him because of this.

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There is something about the presence of the Lord

Psalm 16: 11

Nothing like being in the presence of the lord and having a right standing with him.

David praised and worshipped the Lord enjoying the presence of the Lord.

Come magnify the Lord with me let us exalt his name together

How many of us remember how God took us from the darkness into his light. We didn't know how to love him and we were so excited and get ups in the morning excited to go to church and if the preacher preached long they all sat still - excited and now if the preacher is too long the keys begin to shake and the horns go off in the parking lot because our minds are on something else. But David was in the presence of the Lord. When he fought a bear and lion and Goliath all he had was the presence of the Lord.

There is nothing like the presence of the Lord.

Michael was childless because she looked in disgust at a child worshipping in the presence of the Lord.

We often enjoy the presence of the Lord. We know the value and how it feels to be free in God's presence. We know what it means when our sins are forgiven. We worship him freely without guilt or fear. When we went to him in prayer our minds were clear and we would wait for him to speak. In the presence of the Lord. This worshipper - something happened to him

2 Samuel 11: 1

David stayed behind in Jerusalem at a time when he should have been at war. At a time when the purpose for which he was anointed was to defend God's people he decided to send the commander and stayed behind in Jerusalem.

Joab is on the battlefield and David is in Jerusalem out of place and soon he decides to take a stroll and on the roof of his palace he notices a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath.

One look and an idle stroll a moment where he found himself out of place. One decision - David decided to stay home.

The worshiper - them and after God's own heart - looks at a woman too good to pass by and he sleeps with a married woman.

Uriah was a man of integrity because there was a rule that the soldier should not have relations with his wife during war. - The army is fighting. How can I be merry if there is a war going on?

It takes one open door to invite a flood of sinful acts. One single door. It was only a look on the tree with the fruit that God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat and with one look the power of desire overwhelmed her and so darkness then entered the hearts of God's people.

David took one look with Bathsheba and soon after the act of adultery she was pregnant.

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He that covers his sins shall not prosper.

The servant was exercising integrity; he had a letter from the king and he didn't even open it. A letter with instructions that would cause him to die. David's plan worked but it cost more lives. Other innocent men die. Why? One look. One decision - I am not going to war - One stroll on his roof - One woman taking a bath and now we have a woman pregnant, a husband who is deceased and other innocent lives are lost.

What is that one thing? That one decision that has led us away from the path of Life? That one decision that has caused us not to be free in the presence of the Lord. It causes us not to feel the presence of the Lord and that one decision that caused us to sin in several ways

The eyes of the Lord are everywhere beholding the good and the evil.

One word.

David has legalized this marriage because he killed Bathsheba's husband.

Can you handle that one word?

Nathan the prophet came to David and spoke to him using a story.

The sin of covetousness! What we have here is the evil inclination- that spirit that seeks to kill and destroy he is the guest that showed up at the rich man's house. Lust and covetousness is the guest at the rich man's house and when the rich man wants to please his guest he takes the only lamb that the poor man had and prepares it for the guest.

David is quoting scriptures that since the man stole it he must repay fourfold but what about Uriah?

Deuteronomy 5: 21

Here we have David who is out of place and David who is no longer enjoying the presence of the Lord. For at least one year (9 months of pregnancy) living with the guilt on his mind - how can you pray and you have not confessed. So now in Psalm 32: 3 - 5 David is writing about a period when he had not confessed to the Lord.

Let's think this morning - what is that one thing that has cost us our joy? We can pretend we can come to church and sound good and look good but God knows that there is something in there that has closed the door. When sin is in you you can't come to church with confidence. We pretend for so long and the joy is disappearing and when we come to church there is no fullness of Joy.

Restore unto the Joy of thy salvation.

Sin is a burden and is always there to remind us and even if we are comfortable every now and then it reminds us. The believer who was rescued from darkness is now walking with a limp. Because sin is now a burden and he is not free to worship the Lord. He sits in the pew and he can lift his hands. Sin is constantly reminding them don't you be free. Sin is a shackle; it burdens the soul and stains the garments of the priest.

When I look back how I took the ark back every six steps I sacrificed to the Lord now I can't rejoice because you sin is ever before me. What has cost us our joy?

David began to pen Psalm 51

Have mercy on me oh Lord!

When we have found ourselves in this position what we need is the mercy of God. One can't see this unless he sees the seriousness of his sin. Sin has a way of affecting our physical body.

How quickly after 9 verses of curse and when David said I have sinned against the Lord the Lord forgave him quickly. - The power of confession!

David cast himself on mercy. What are we waiting for?

Why are we holding on to the sin and forgiveness is free. Are you constantly reminding yourself of the past when the Lord said I can restore you. But the sin must die. God can restore unto us the joy of our salvation but something has to die.

Life is not worth living if we don't have a relationship with Jesus. God gave me back my joy. God wants someone to cast themselves on the mercy of God. The world will never understand the gift of forgiveness; you can't reason it, you just need to believe in it. David is at a point where he is about to perish.

David openly confessed before the Lord. The Lord knows where we have erred. I have to be conscious of how serious the evil is in my life.

God I want to hear you once more. Sion has closed my spiritual ear but purged me. I want to hear joy and gladness.

David danced in gladness and joy but now he finds himself in sin.

You can't escape the voice of unconfessed sins. We go through the days and you have a pleasure bit in the midst that voice just speaks and reminds us that we have sinned.

Give me a spirit of integrity -

We can pretend but God knows how dry we are when we are not feeling the presence of the Lord. We pretend but there is a Nathan that moves in the midst of the candlestick. God revealed himself as life in our lives. It doesn't matter how far we are taken from his presence we can still cry out to restore unto me the joy of salvation.

The power of a conscience that is set free is that you can talk boldly about the Lord.

You can tell when a church has lost its joy when you stop talking about Jesus.

Jesus wants to restore the Joy of his salvation . What decision took you away from the presence of the Lord. Lay on the mercy of the Lord and you will feel the power of his grace this morning. Perhaps you have never tasted his salvation but you know your life is not at the place you want it to be. I am telling you the answer to your desire is in Jesus. The answer is Jesus. The reason we can't live an overcoming life is because our lips are sealed and we fail to confess our faults but Jesus says you have to open up for me to heal you.