

## ***ENJOYED BY THE JOYFUL GOD: PSALM 149*** ***JESUS THE BRIDEGROOM TEACHING SERIES 9/1/19***

***“Sing to the LORD a new song, and His praises in the assembly of saints. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. Let them praise His name with the dance; let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. For the LORD takes pleasure in His people. He will beautify the humble with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory; let them sing aloud on their beds.” (Psalm 149:1-5)***

### **I. PSALM 149 – GOD ENJOYS HIS PEOPLE**

- A. We have a God given need within us to be freely accepted and enjoyed by God and others for who we truly are (strengths, weaknesses, victories, failures, our past and our future). When this need is satisfied the deepest places in our hearts come alive. If this need is not met, we guard our hearts to a degree and limit our experience of intimacy with God and others.
- B. We can only enter into the revelation and experience of being enjoyed by God moment by moment if we enter into the revelation that God is first happy and joyful in His personality. The key idea is that His enjoyment of us is based in His own joy.
- C. Our highest calling for all of eternity is to be enjoyed by God and to enjoy God. Our reason for existence is to enjoy a deep relationship with God and to bring Him deep pleasure. Applying this same relationship value and purpose to marriages and family life will bring great healing long-term.
- D. Psalm 149 is a song about enjoying God. The summary of the Psalm is God enjoys you, therefore enjoy Him and fully release your love to Him through all kinds of worship. ***Everything revolves around verse 4 and is the overflow from the personal experience of verse 4.*** The last half of the Psalm is about releasing God’s power and judgments on the nations in the end-times through a church that has the revelation of God’s joy.
- E. ***Let Israel rejoice in their Maker*** – Two faces of God are named in this Psalm, Maker and King. We can enjoy/rejoice in our Maker. He is the One who crafted us in the very beginning for love and pleasure in Him. He is the One who made us for Himself. His primary motivation for creating in Genesis 1 was deep enjoyment with one creature made in His image.
- F. ***Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King*** – Enjoy God in His leadership involvement in our lives. The King on the throne is not just powerful, He’s joyful and loves to see His people enjoy Him.
- G. ***Praise His name with the dance*** – God’s name = His personality or heart. Go deep in understanding who He is and what He’s like as a Person and then praise Him with dancing. Dancing is the deepest physical expression of joy and enjoyment. I compare the depth of expression of dancing to the depth of expression of weeping and groaning. God dances over us and God enjoys us dancing over Him. Dancing is a sign that you’re heart is growing in confidence that God enjoys you and that He wants you to enjoy Him and express it back to Him.

**H. *Sing praises with the timbrel and harp*** – We can sing through instruments. Part of enjoying God and releasing love to Him happens through musical expressions because we are musical beings and God is a musical being. **MAKE SINGING A MAJOR PART OF ALL OF YOUR PRAYER EXPRESSIONS** (meditation, worship, intercession, bible memorization...)

**I. *Let the saints be joyful in glory and sing aloud on their beds*** – Enjoying God will lead to an overflowing heart and spending more time with God, even in the night hours. Glory refers to the honorable position of the saints as image bearers and beloved of God, but also refers to the supernatural presence we get to experience when with the Lord.

**J. *For the LORD takes pleasure in His people*** – The Maker of Heaven and Earth and the King of all creation enjoys your friendship. He's not constantly grieved by you, annoyed with you, bored with you or disconnected from you.

1. He enjoys your friendship. Jesus sought out deep friendship with Mary, Martha, Lazarus, James, Peter and John. Moses and Abraham were friends of God. Jesus longs for deeper fellowship with His people, even those in serious compromise (Revelation 3:19-20).
2. He is thinking about you in great detail at every moment (Psalm 139:16-18; 40:5, 17).
3. He's fully satisfied within Himself, but in some way we move His heart with the smallest movements of our hearts (Song of Songs 4:9-5:1; 6:4-5).

## **II. REMOVE HINDRANCES TO RECEIVING HIS ENJOYMENT**

A. On a scale of 1-10 (10 is the best), deep down how much do you think God enjoys you today? Write down the number and then write down why you enjoys you at that level. If not 10, write down the reasons why.

B. Little thoughts are actually huge doors blocking God's joy from rushing in. Here are some reasons why our hearts don't automatically feel fully enjoyed by God or confident to enjoy God:

1. Don't feel forgiven of our present or past sin.
2. Don't feel like you're doing enough (ministry, good works, prayer, bible...)
3. Deep sense of feeling unworthy of His enjoyment.
4. Deep sense that God isn't actually joyful in Himself.
5. Lack confidence that God wants you to experience joy and pleasure in Him