



The Oil of Gladness

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Matthew 25:1–13; Luke 2:10–11

Joy: unspeakable delight
The absence of gladness in the life of a believer is evidence something is off in the life of that believer.
Happiness can be found in the shallows. Joy is found only in the depths.
Happiness is situational. Joy is supernatural.
When you possess the oil of gladness, you don't obsess over escaping the sadness.

1. Please God.

Psalm 16:11; Philippians 2:13; Luke 3:22; Zephaniah 3:17; Psalm 45:7
Gladness is the guaranteed result of knowing God is pleased.
God's natural disposition is pleasure, not displeasure.
God is a God who absolutely, positively, totally, and completely loves being pleased.
God is easy to please.
Inside the heart of every one of His children, God has placed the desire to please Him.

2. Hate wickedness.

Amos 5:15; Proverbs 8:13; Psalm 97:10; Romans 12:9; Psalm 5:4; Isaiah 59:2; Ezekiel 18:23, 32, 33:11
What you're tempted by this week is the result of what you tolerated too much last month.
How much God hates wickedness is directly proportional to how much He hates any distance between you and Him.
The absence of wickedness does not guarantee the presence of righteousness.

3. Love righteousness.

Matthew 5:6; 1 John 3:7; Isaiah 53:10; Luke 15:8–10
It's one thing to be made like Him; it's a completely different thing to look like Him.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to me through this message?

Scripture is from The New Living Translation and New King James Versions of the Bible.