JOY, JOY, JOY

(Luke 15:1-10)

INTRODUCTION: (Phil. 4:4) "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, Rejoice."

(James 1:2) "Count it all joy when ye fall into various trials,

(v3) knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience"

Joy is a by-product, a consequence, a result of a completed task or being in a right relationship.

(Hebrews 12:11) "Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."

(Psalm 5:11-12) "let all those that put their trust in Thee rejoice ... "

(Psalm 28:7) "The Lord is my strength and shield ... therefore my heart greatly rejoices ... "

JOY IS THE RESULT OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. SALVATION: (Psalm 21:1) "... and in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice."

(Psalm 51:12; Psalm 132:9); Romans 5:11)

Salvation is always an occasion of joy: (Luke 15:10, v32; Acts 8:39; Acts 16:34)

- 2. BELIEVING: (1 Peter 1:3-9) "... a living hope ... an inheritance incorruptible ... kept ... (v6) in this you greatly rejoiced ... (v8) believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible ... "
- 3. NAME WRITTEN IN HEAVEN: (Luke 10:20) "... rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

(Revelation 20:12) "... the book of life ... " (v15) "And anyone not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

4. BEING IN THE KINGDOM (CHURCH): (Romans 14:17) "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

(John 3:5-7) "... I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God ... you must be born again." (also Romans 6:3-4)

- 5. HOPE: (Romans 12:12) "Rejoicing in hope" Hymn #538 My Hope Is Built On
- 6. HEAVEN: (Matthew 25:23) "... enter into the joy of your Lord"

(Psalm 30:5) "weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

(Psalm 126:5) "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."