

A.M. OUTLINE
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"BE OF GOOD CHEER"

(2 Cor. 4:8-18)

(John 16:33) "These things have I spoken to you, that in me you might have peace.
In the world you shall have tribulation: **but be of good cheer**, I have overcome the world."

Note some things that promote cheerfulness:

1. KNOWING THAT IN THIS WORLD OTHERS HAVE TRIBULATION, TOO.

We've heard it said, "Misery loves company" and "We're all in the same boat"
Don't wait until all misery is gone to be cheerful; you'll never be cheerful.

2. KNOWING THAT CHEERFULNESS HONORS CHRISTIANITY

If your Christian living makes you look sour, don't be surprised if nobody wants what you have.
Being "in Christ," salvation, is always an occasion of joy - (text) "in me have peace"
(Luke 15:10; Acts 8:39; Acts 16:33-34; Phil. 4:4; Gal. 5:22)
Yes, salvation is something for us to cheer about in this world of tribulation.

3. KNOWING THAT YOU MAY NOT BE AS BAD OFF AS YOU THINK

Maybe you've magnified your "tribulations."
We sing, "Count Your Many Blessings"

4. KNOWING THAT BEING CHEERFUL PAYS (has its rewards)

(Prov. 17:22) "A merry heart does good like medicine ... "
Sign posted for lost dog: "Old, crippled, losing hair. Answers to the name, Lucky."

5. KNOWING THAT GOD PROMISES NEVER TO LEAVE US

(Heb. 13:5) "I will never leave you, nor forsake you" Also (Mtt. 28:20; Psalm 23:4)
It is always comforting to have someone with us: (Ecc. 4:9-12)

6. KNOWING THAT WE HAVE HOPE

(Prov. 10:28) "the hope of the righteous shall be gladness ... "
(1 Thess. 4:13; Titus 2:13; 1 Peter 1:3)
In life, if all hope is crushed, we would give up and not try.

7. KNOWING THAT HEAVEN IS OUR HOME - Cheer up, brethren, we're going home!