NO MORE SAD

The Joy Of Certainty

I. The level of your faith is connected to the level of your joy-Rom 15:13

- A. If you're in faith, then you have a joy about you
 - 1. Psalm 5:11-But let all those who put their trust in you rejoice
 - 2. Psalm 13:5-I have <u>trusted</u> in your mercy; my heart shall <u>rejoice</u> in your salvation
 - a. NLV-I have trusted in your loving-kindness. My heart will be full of joy because you will save me.
 - 3. Psalm 33:21-For our heart shall <u>rejoice</u> in him because we have <u>trust</u> in His holy name
 - a. NLV-For our heart is full of joy in Him, because we trust in His holy name
 - 4. Proverbs 16:20-Whoso <u>trust</u> in the Lord <u>happy</u> is he
 - a. HCSB-The one who trusts in the Lord will be happy
 - b. NLT-Those who trust in the Lord will be joyful
 - 5. Philippians 1:25-I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith
 - a. CEB-The Joy of your faith
 - b. MSG-As your growth and joy in this life of trusting God continues
 - 6. Romans 15:13-Now the God of hope fill you with all **joy** and peace in **believing**
 - 7. Romans 10:17, Jeremiah 15:16-They both originate with the Word of God
- B. Joy is an out flowing expression of your faith in God
 - 1. Those who have no faith have no joy
 - a. If you're not very confident that you're going to win this thing, you won't have joy
 - b. The more certain that you are you're going to win, the more joyful you become
 - 2. Faith in God and in His Word is the origin of joy; it's the place from which joy flows
 - a. EX: It's believing Philippians 4:19 that will cause joy to flow
 - b. Without faith joy has nothing to flow out of; no place from which to come
 - 3. Romans 15:13-The joy is **in** the believing and flows from the believing
 - a. You're joy expresses your faith; it tells us that you're in faith, certain, confident
 - b. Joy says you're certain
- C. Sorrow is an outflowing expression of your unbelief
 - 1. Luke 8:50-52-They're sorrowful and Jairus isn't because he believes and they don't
 - 2. John 11-They're sorrowful because they don't believe Jesus can fix this
 - a. Maybe you're sorrowful for the same reason because you don't believe
 - 3. Sorrow makes it apparent that you are not believing God
 - a. Sorrow says you're not sure about the Word

- 4. You're sad, sorrowful and heavy; Okay what has God said that you don't believe?
- D. Sorrow so often is a faith issue; sorrow flows out of unbelief and if you don't plug that hole sorrow will continue to flow
 - 1. Numbers 11:20-They wept because they don't believe God will do what He said
 - 2. Numbers 14:1-God said I've given you the land and I'm going to drive the people out; but they don't believe that; they believe they're going to die
 - 3. 1 Samuel 1:7-She wept because she didn't believe God would give her a child
 - 4. Joel 2:21-If you believed God was going to do something great you'd be in joy

E. Sorrow is an enemy of faith

- 1. When you yield to sorrow you yield to unbelief
 - a. 1 John 5:4, Deuteronomy 28:47-If faith is the victory, sorrow is the defeat
 - b. If you really have been in faith about it, then you've had joy about it
- 2. When you sense sorrow, that's a red light on the dashboard saying your faith level is low and when your faith level is low you need to go to the filling station of the Word

II. There's a connection between your certainty and your joy and uncertainty and sorrow

- A. Psalm 5:11-There is joy in certainty and safety
 - 1. Let them EVER shout for joy-that's when things look good or when they look bad
 - 2. When you seek God for refuge, it must be because you trust him to defend you
 - 3. Safety, security and certainty is the breeding grounds for joy
 - a. When you feel safe, secure and are certain about your deliverance it breeds joy
 - b. They always shout for joy because they're certain God has them covered
 - 4. When you trust God (your defense) and are certain you're safe you'll have joy
 - a. You can hear it all throughout spiritual threads Psalm 91-He didn't write this sad
 - 5. Confidence, certainty, and joy go together
 - a. John 16:33-I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]
 - b. When you engage God's way it guarantees your victory and that's why the Kingdom of righteousness, peace and JOY-Romans 14:17
- B. Those who aren't certain about their safety, security, their victory will sorrow
 - 1. When you feel insecure, unsafe, and unsure about how the situation is going to turn out you'll be sad, heavy, and sorrowful
 - 2. "Not sure" breeds sorrow; Uncertainty & insecurity is the breeding ground of sorrow
 - 3. If the enemy can infect your life with uncertainty he can inject you with sorrow

- a. One of his most famous statements is you just never know
- 4. Deuteronomy 28:65-66-Sorrow is the result of having no assurance of your welfare
 - a. Ex: If you're not sure you're going to win what's there to rejoice about
- 5. Hannah was sad and heavy because she was unsure she'd ever have a baby, but the moment she was certain it was going to happen she was no more sad-1Sam1:18
 - a. She's sad because she wants a baby and she's not sure it's going to happen
 - b. The fact that she was no more sad tells me that she was certain about this word

III. Certainty regarding the Word of God will be your source of joy in times of adversity; The more certain you get, the more joy will manifest

- A. Joy doesn't come from what you see or how you feel it comes from what you know or the Word of God that you are certain about
 - 1. If we want to rid your life of sorrow, we have to rid it of uncertainty
 - 2. Hebrews 10:34-36-Joy is going to flow out of your knower
 - a. 34-36-They took joyfully the spoiling of their goods because the know something
 - b. You're cheerful courage has a great reward
 - 3. My joy is not based on what I've seen, heard, or believe from the Word, but on what I KNOW from the Word
 - a. When attacks come and trial comes ask yourself, WHAT DO I KNOW?; Not what do I feel or what do I see, but WHAT DO I KNOW?
 - b. People who don't KNOW nothing won't have any joy
 - 4. Fully persuaded faith will manifest in overflowing joy
 - a. When you know that you know the joy will overflow
 - 5. Hab3:17-He doesn't have be sorrowful about verse 17, because he knows verse 19
- B. Certainty regarding God's Word is a major key in experiencing His overflowing Joy
 - 1. Genesis 15:1-18-Abraham asked God how can I be certain that I'm going to get what you promised and in response God cut a blood covenant with Abraham
 - a. A blood covenant is like a contract in that it guarantees that I'll keep my word
 - b. Instead of putting it "in writing" God put it in blood
 - c. This was the most serious agreement that couldn't be entered into in Abraham's day and he knew the seriousness of it
 - 2. Hebrews 6:12-19
 - a. 17-God wants us to be certain about his word so he confirmed it with a covenant
 - God came between the promise and the man He made the promise to and made a blood covenant agreement, swearing by Himself (If I'm lying, I'm dying), that what He said is true and it will come to pass

- b. 18-God promised it and then made covenant regarding the promise swearing by Himself and left himself no way out because he can't die, he can't lie
- c. 18-That certainty encourages us to lay hold of a joyful confident expectation and be joyfully confident that what God said will come to pass in my life
 - 1) This certainty about His word breeds joy in my life
- 3. Romans 4:19-21-He was fully persuaded in faith and that's why he still had his joy and that's why he was strong to fight and win
 - a. He wasn't weak in faith so I know he has joy because it's his strength
 - b. He was strong in faith being joyful and he's joyful because he's certain
- C. Rom10:17, Jer15:16-Certainty about the Word comes from time spent in the Word