

SO LONG SORROW
Glad When It's Bad

- I. As believers, we can be joyful when we feel no joy and we can be glad when we feel sad and when it's appears to be going bad**
- A. Be joyful in adversity-*Js1:2-My brethren count it all joy WHEN YOU FALL INTO DIVERS TEMPTATIONS (adversity)-Ac16:25-Paul and Silas prayed and SANG PRAISES unto God*
- B. Be joyful in fiery trials-*1Pt4:12-Think it not strange concerning THE FIERY TRIAL (calamity-any great misfortune or cause of misery) which is to try you, as though some strange think happened unto you: But rejoice; Ac5:40-When they had called the apostles and BEAT THEM, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus and let them go. And they departed from the presence of the council REJOICING that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name*
- C. Be joyful when people hate and mistreat you-*Lk6:22-Blessed are you WHEN MEN SHALL HATE YOU, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach (treat with contempt) you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice you in that day, and leap for joy; for, behold, your reward is great in heaven*
- D. Laugh at destruction and famine-*Job5:22-At DESTRUCTION and FAMINE thou shalt LAUGH: neither shall thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth; Ha3:17-Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: ¹⁸ YET I WILL REJOICE IN THE LORD, I WILL JOY IN THE GOD OF MY SALVATION. ¹⁹ The Lord God is my strength and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places*
- E. We are be joyful before the great things-*Jo2:21-Fear not, O land; BE GLAD and REJOICE: FOR THE LORD WILL DO GREAT THINGS*
- F. God expects us to make the choice to rejoice even in our darkest hour
- G. Say This-I can be joyful in adversity. I can be glad when it's bad.
- II. To be joyful when you feel no joy, to be glad when you feel sad and when it seems to be going bad is a choice-You can do it based on your feelings**
- A. You have to exercise your will-Our will is the faculty by which we determine to do or not to do something-*Ha3:18-YET I WILL REJOICE IN THE LORD, I WILL JOY IN THE GOD OF MY SALVATION.*
- B. Glad or sad? It's your choice no matter how bad things are-You can sit there and be sad and if you do it's entirely your fault - "If you were going through what I was going through you'd be sad too." Only if I made that choice.
- C. Sadness is a feeling we all experience, but to be sad is a choice-*Ps104:34-I WILL BE GLAD IN THE LORD; Ps118:24-This is the day which the Lord hath made: WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT; Is61:10-I WILL GREATLY REJOICE IN THE LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; Ps31:7-I WILL BE GLAD AND REJOICE IN THY MERCY; Ps9:2-I WILL BE GLAD AND REJOICE IN THEE*
- D. You have to "will it" when you don't "feel it"-**I WILL** be glad and rejoice **NOT I FEEL** glad and feel like rejoicing
- III. The choice to be glad strengthens you on the inside so that you can overcome the adversity-This choice is one you have to make to overcome**
- A. The natural response in adversity is to go low-How will you overcome being sorrowful and broken inside-*Pr18:14-AC-The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or TROUBLE, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear? **MS**-A healthy spirit conquers adversity, but WHAT CAN YOU DO WHEN THE SPIRIT IS CRUSHED?*