

December 18, 2011

Jesus Gives Real Joy

(How to smile from the inside out) (SERIES: POLYESTER JESUS; 01 of 07) by Dr. David Foster

Real Jesus Gives

Real Assurance.

"....The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." (John 11)

Real Contentment..

"give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things." (Psa 107)

Real Peace.

"I am leaving you with a gift—<u>peace of mind and heart. And the</u> <u>peace I give is a gift the world cannot give</u>. So don't be troubled or afraid." (John 14)

Real Prosperity.

"that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." (3 John 1)

Real Rest.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11)

Real Comfort.

"<u>Blessed are those who mourn</u>, for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5)

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A Theology of Joy

There is joy's promise.

"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields . . . An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news that will cause great joy for all the people.** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luk 2)

There is joy's provider.

"the joy of the Lord is your strength!" (Nehemiah 8:10 NLT)

There is joy's perspective.

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." (Prov 17:22 ESV)

Messy Joy

Means God is near.

"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24 ESV)

Means grace abounds.

"... where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 5:20-21 NIV)

Means hope endures.

"In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you," (1 Peter 1:3-4 NIV)

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