**I WANT GOD’S FAVOR AND BLESSING IN MY LIFE**

**Ps 5:11** But let all those that put their trust in thee **Rejoice**: let them ever Shout for Joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be **Joyful** in thee.

 **12** For thou, LORD, wilt **Bless** the righteous; with **Favour** wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

**Pro 12:2** A good man obtaineth **favour** of the LORD.

Dear reader, we have truly been Blessed by the Lord and we ought to Rejoice in Him and Praise Him for All His Goodness!!

**Rejoice** – Do you know what Rejoice means? It means to show forth your Praise to God with the feeling of great joy and delight, with a Glad heart for all He’s done and given!!

And why do we Rejoice? It’s because we’re Saved from this world of sin, we’re born again; we have the Lord Jesus and His Love down deep in our Heart and we KNOW we’re headed to Heaven, a place far better than anything this world has to offer!!

You might say - Brother Tommy, what is the difference between **Happiness** and **Joy**? Happiness is an emotion of feeling good and excited when good fortune and good things happen – The feeling of Happiness is circumstantial, in good circumstances when everything is going GOOD. How many has ever heard the saying – let the good times roll? But remember, worldly Happiness is fleshly, it’s only skin deep - **BUT Joy,** real JOY goes much deeper, it is of the Heart and the Soul of the inner man! Hallelujah, it’s down deep inside where Christ abides. Joy is birthed inside your inner being by the indwelling Holy Spirit! I tell you - this Good Holy Ghost won’t let you die, He won’t let you go down! If you have a good prayer life and you daily seek the Lord - you Praise and Love Him and take time to read His Holy Word, you won’t get down, stay down and depressed - You won’t want to stay home! Jesus and the Holy Ghost is greater than that – He’ll motivate you with excitement to want to come to Church and Praise and Worship the Lord for His Good Salvation.

The apostle Paul wrote the Thessalonian church - **1Th 5:16** ¶ Rejoice evermore. **17** Pray without ceasing. **18** In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. **19** Quench not the Spirit.

 I’ve said it so many times – Loving God, Singing His praises, Praying and audibly Praising Him will break mental binds, it’ll break the chains of depression and lift you into His presence with Joy and Gladness!!

Isaiah the prophet said that Jesus was coming and when He comes, the Spirit of the Lord God would be upon Him to Heal the broken hearted, He’ll set captives free and appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them Beauty for ashes, the Oil of Joy for mourning, the Garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness.

Praise God, I refuse to let circumstances rule me, get me down, steal my Praise and take away my Joy and Gladness! Thank God, I’ve got a Blessed Hope!

**Pro 10:28** The Hope of the righteous shall be gladness:

THE KEY FOR GOD’S BLESSINGS

If you want God’s **Blessings** and have His **Favour** in your life, – He’s got to be number One – He must be your greatest Desire, and your very Delight, He must be your Hope and heart’s Dream. Every day you’ll want to walk with Him, talk to Him. Your mind will think upon Him with an inward praise in your heart as you go about your day. He’ll be your meditation in the night! On your jobs, and your everyday obligations, you won’t leave Him out! You’ll talk to Him with an inward prayer as you go!

 This ought to be our Prayer – Dear Lord, give me a spiritual mind, a down deep desire to pray, hunger and thirst for you and read your Word!! O to be in God’s Spirit, O to have His presence and to feel His touch means more than ANYTHING else in this world! Can you say – Bro. Tommy, I want that sweet communion with the Lord and know He’s pleased and I have His Favour!

 **Listen:** - There is a **Blessed state** that you can reach and get to when you Seek Jesus with your whole heart – it’s a Spiritual State of well being, a deep down joy filled contentment that cannot be shaken by affliction and trials. Thank You Lord for this Blessed Hope – it’s a Sacred Place of Trust and Hope that gives you that good Feeling of calm assurance that no matter what you face, you have God with you and in you – You **have** built and **ARE** building your life on Him and You don’t have to worry or fear – for the Blessed Holy Ghost, that sweet Comforter, abides in your Heart!!

 **Listen** to me close – Our Blessings in life is based on the **Condition of our Soul**! The Blessing that God gives goes beyond the material things we have and possess. To crave and desire earthly things can never bring genuine happiness and contentment to the soul. Our fulfillment can only come and be in our Love for the Lord!!

 John the Beloved wrote to us in **III John 1:2** - Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest **Prosper** and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. (Everything good you can receive from God in life will be based on the Spiritual condition of your soul!!) The Lord will honour those who Love and Seek Him!

**Pro. 10:22** ¶ The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it.

GOD MUST BE YOUR DELIGHT

**Ps 37:4** **Delight** thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

The Lord will give you your heart’s desire when it’s fully in Him! (Do you know what **Delight** means? It’s to take Great pleasure and Joy in!!) It goes back to our main scripture for this lesson: If you really Love the Lord, you’ll want to worship and praise Him with all your heart! **Ps 5:11** But let all those that put their trust in thee **Rejoice**: let them ever Shout for joy, because thou Defendest them: let them also that **Love** thy name be joyful in thee.

 **12** For thou, LORD, wilt **Bless** the righteous; with **favour** wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Can I tell you – **My Joy is Jesus**!! It’s not hard to Praise Him when I think of all He’s done! He’s touched my Heart and surely Blessed my Life. I owe Him my Love and Praise! When He has your heart and lives inside, you’ll radiate - others will know and feel it!!

**Pro. 15:13** ¶ A **Merry heart** maketh a cheerful countenance:

**15** He that is of a **Merry heart** hath a continual feast.

**Pro. 17:22** ¶ A **Merry heart** doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Are you caught up on all your Praises to the One who loves you? Prayer and Praise will make your soul like a Watered Garden! You’ll flourish like the Palm tree and grow like a Cedar of Lebanon. You’ll stand strong in the storm and shine like a beacon in the night.

**Isa 60:1** ¶ Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

 **2** For, behold, the **darkness** shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee.

 Children, it’s time to arise and shine that others might see the Glory upon thee. Fill us Lord Jesus, fill our hearts with Gladness and Praise!

I want to ask you – “How personal do you make the Lord to you?” Is He your everything, your all and all? Have you placed your life in His hand? My Hope and every Blessing is in my God! He is Faithful to Bless those who really Love Him and are Committed! **Mark 12:29** Jesus answered a Scribe one time –“The **first** of all the commandments is, **30** And thou shalt Love the Lord thy God with ALL thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength:

THE REALM OF CURSING AND BLESSING

Come on **Jeremiah**, can you tell us O man of God – Does it pay to serve the Lord? Yes it does!! Is it dangerous in this evil world to not have God and to not serve Him? Is it dangerous to be away from His presence, to get out of His Divine Will? YES, YES! **Woe** to that person who feels they don’t need the Lord, they can have success going their own way - living their life and working things out on their own. A daily prayer life, reading their Bible, Church attendance and worship doesn’t interest them, they’ve got other interests. I don’t want to forget the Lord! You cannot afford to not Love and serve God every day – for there will come a desperate time that you’ll need Him and if you don’t stay dedicated in His presence and something bad happens – it’ll be hard for you to feel and reach Him for help!

**Jer 17:5** ¶ Thus saith the LORD; **Cursed** be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.

(Can I tell us all in this Newsletter – Man is not your hope, he cannot save, cannot Heal and He cannot Deliver you. Only the Lord can – He has the answer to your problems, Only He can touch the body and give new life to the soul. Only He can prosper you - He can bring you off death row, He can bring you off the Suicide list when you feel you’re at the end and ready to give up!

Jesus can fix and mend the broken heart, only He can satisfy the longing soul. Only Jesus gives true Peace-Hope and success in life!!)

Can you tell us more Jeremiah about people who are away from God and His Presence?

 **6** For he (that person who doesn’t have the Lord, but trusts in himself, this world and others) he shall be like the **Heath** in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

(O the sad picture of a sinner and backslider who doesn’t have God! The bible says they are like a Heath tree. A Heath tree is a brown berried cedar tree that lives and grows in isolated places, in the lonely crags of a mountain and dry deserts far away from water. They barely suck in enough moisture from the atmosphere to live.) I don’t want to be that Heath tree, I need God, I want His loving life giving Spirit! We know what it means to be **Blessed** – When you’re Blessed, you’re Happy, Fortunate and Prosperous.

But do you know what it means to be under a Curse? It means – “Nothing will ever go right for you. Things will continually turn upside down and grow worse! There’ll be misery, misfortune, no end to trouble, there’ll be problem after problem, breakdown after breakdown - nothing will work out and go right!”

 Can you tell us more Jeremiah? What about those who really know the Lord, Love and serve Him and have Him in their life?

 **7** **Blessed** is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose Hope the LORD is.

 **8** For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be Green; and shall not be careful (worried) in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

The Psalmist David by the Inspiration of the Holy Ghost said the same thing so clearly - **Ps 1:1** ¶ **Blessed** is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

 **2** But his **Delight** is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he Meditate day and night. **3** And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall **prosper**.

 **4** The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

**GOD IS FAITHFUL**

I want to tell all my Readers that God is FAITHFUL and He is Merciful! Can we all look back on our life and say – God has been good to me? Do you know why? Because we’re still here by His marvelous Grace, He didn’t let the devil destroy us and death swallow us up! Our bodies could be buried somewhere in a sinners grave! O God, we could have been gone a long time ago and in a devils Hell, but the Lord spared us, He brought us where we are today – O Bless His dear Name!! The Lord has been Faithful, He’s been True! There have been times that I failed Him, but He’s never failed me. He could have walked away but He saw deep in my Heart my Desire to serve Him and make Heaven my Home! Can I tell you that the Lord never changes, He’s always the same – He said – “I am the Lord and I change not – I am Merciful and Gracious and longsuffering and abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.” When you really have the Lord, He’ll never walk out on you, others may, but He’ll never leave you or forsake you!

 Can we say Thank you Lord Jesus that you never gave up on me?! Lord, would you speak to every heart and tell us what you would have us to know? – “Yes, I will speak to you precious soul: I am the God of your past. I have brought you to where you are today, I did not give up on you, and still haven’t! It’s all because of my Mercy and unfailing Grace. I made Heaven for people just like you! I came to give my Blood and die on a Cross to get you there. I took the nails through my hands and feet, I took every one of your flaws, your weaknesses and sins in my own body nailed to the tree; the nails were driven through every one of them! I shed every drop of my Blood to forgive, cleanse you and set you free. You don’t have to carry your sins any longer, you don’t have to carry the guilt and the sense of failure anymore, that has plagued your life and made you feel unworthy and unloved!! My Love is far greater, my Love is stronger than it all! The devil would have liked to take you down and out and destroy you – but I didn’t let him do it – I held on to you, It’s me that kept you – I’ve got a plan for you and you’re here right now for a purpose. I the Lord say unto you dear soul – don’t let the devil talk to you, to lie and discourage you and tell you that you’re no good. Don’t let him show you all the bad and tell you there’s no purpose. You might have been pulled by the Devil and drifted and wandered away from your closeness with me, but don’t let the enemy of your soul tell you that you’ll never feel and know my Love and Goodness! I am the Lord that forgives and Restores! But I the Lord am near to you, I am as real as you want me to be – I am True and Faithful and I will not forsake you! If you will reach up and Call, I will Help you all the way to the end! You might have fallen a thousand times in life and feel unworthy, and the devil tells you that you’re no good, you’re a failure and God doesn’t care, but he is a liar – I STILL LOVE YOU AND I STILL CARE! I AM YOUR HOPE AND YOUR HELP!!”

 Can I tell everyone reading this Newsletter – God is Bigger, He is Greater, hold on to the Lord. This world all around you is sinking sand but you don’t have to go down with it. O psalmist David, the one who wrote the 23rd Psalm, can you tell us your heart and how you felt? Yes I will! You can do what I did when I was down and out and the Lord will help you too.

**Ps 40:17** - I am Poor and Needy; **yet** the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer. (You mean He’s thinking about me? YES!! No matter who you are and what you’ve been through? Yes!)

 Come on Psalmist David and tell us a little bit more before we let you go:

**Ps 121:1** I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

 **2** My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth. Can I tell you here today - The Lord is your Helper – He is your keeper – He is your peace – He’s your refuge when you’re weary, He’s your shelter in the rain and storm – He’s your Pavilion, your Covering, the safe Hiding place when the enemy is pressing you sore! Thank God, if you have Jesus and you serve Him, you’re in the shelter of His arms. This world and its problems can wear you down and out and make you feel like you’re useless and your life is vain – But O that’s when Jesus really becomes your everything. He’ll be your very best friend that’ll be closer than a brother, He’s dearer than a father or mother, He’ll be right there with you in your darkest time, you don’t have to sit in darkness – He’ll be your light, you won’t have to worry and fear, your life won’t hang in doubt because you have the Lord. God says – I know those who love and serve me. I know them who put their Trust in me, I will not let them down. I will help them, I will make a way and show them my Salvation, and I will give them Hope and Peace so that you can say – Heaven shall be mine!!

 In ending this Newsletter – I surely want the Lord’s Blessing and Favour in my Life. I want to Love Him, Praise and Worship Him in the time I have left! Love Him and Serve Him and He will Bless you! May God Bless all My Readers!!