

## **A Great Day in the Kingdom – 9/15/23**

Can you recall a challenging time in your life narrative, when things seemed lacking of hope and promise? All of us have a story of difficult times and trying situations we thought would never end. This is of course the story of humanity, tracing all the way back to Adam and Eve. No one gets out of this life unscathed.

Jesus addressed the disciples in the book of John, with a promise of the temporal misery, followed by the eternal promise of Joy. We do seem to forget about the “Joy” factor, from time to time.

**John 16:20, Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy.**

Jesus is telling the disciples that he won't be with them much longer and reminding them that he knows they will experience grief and loss. They of course, do not want to hear these words spoken, but Jesus gives the Eternal promise of Joy. At this very moment, you are concerned about something, grieving a situation or even experiencing anxiety. Jesus tells us that these experiences are only for now. Joy is in your future! Joy is going to be your identity! Joy will be the perfect description of your future existence.

You have a brighter future ahead of you than you could possibly imagine. **Psalm 30:5b, Weeping may endure the night, but Joy comes in the morning.**

Our ancestors are speaking to us in these precious and Holy Words. The next time you are bereft of hope, remember the permanence of Joy and the temporary state of pain. Joy is inevitable for Your future! God says so!!!

Have a Blessed Week! Love You All!

Pastor Joel

**PRAYER: Heavenly Father, I ask that you remind me, through the Holy Spirit that Joy is in my future, no matter what. Help me to live the life you have given me as a good witness to your future promise. When I forget, I ask for restoration. When I am weak, lift me up. Thank You for Loving me. In the name of the Risen Christ Jesus, I Pray!!! AMEN!!!**