

Sermon Notes | 25th December 2025 | The Word Who Brings Joy |

Greetings in the name of the LORD and Savior Jesus Christ! Welcome to the well community church – Indian Service, Merry Christmas! Happy Christmas

I. JOY BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN

Our series is called *Joy to the World*, and John begins by showing us something crucial: joy did not begin in the world but it existed before the world ever began. "In the beginning was the Word." Before creation, before humanity, before sin, before sorrow, there was joy in the eternal fellowship of God. The Word existed in perfect unity with the Father. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joy is not an emotion we invent; it flows from who God is. God is not lonely, angry, or incomplete. God exists in eternal fullness, eternal love, eternal joy. When John says the Word was with God, he describes closeness, intimacy, face-to-face relationship. And out of that joyful communion, creation came into being. All things were made through Him. Joy is creative. Joy overflows. Joy gives life.

John tells us that in Him was life, and that life was the light of men. Life and light are joy-filled realities. Darkness represents fear, guilt, despair, and death but light brings clarity, hope, and joy. From the very beginning, the world was meant to be a place where God's joy overflowed into creation.

This means joy is not dependent on circumstances. Joy existed before circumstances. Joy existed before brokenness. Joy is rooted in the eternal Word. When we talk about joy to the world, we are not talking about temporary happiness or seasonal cheer; we are talking about eternal joy breaking into time through Jesus Christ.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Darkness has tried through sin, suffering, injustice, and death but it cannot extinguish joy because joy is anchored in the eternal Word. Even before Christ stepped into the world, joy had already won.

II. JOY ENTERING A BROKEN WORLD

John moves from eternity into history and reveals something astonishing: the eternal Word stepped into the very world that would reject Him. "He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him." The world was created for joy, yet it failed to recognize the source of joy standing right in front of it.

Joy entered a broken world that preferred darkness. This is one of the great tragedies of human history. The Giver of joy was misunderstood, ignored, and rejected. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. The people who were waiting for salvation missed the Savior because He did not come the way they expected.

Why? Because joy often comes wrapped in humility. The world expects joy to come through power, success, and control. But God sent joy through a servant, through obedience, through sacrifice. The world looks for joy in possessions, pleasure, and pride, but Christ reveals joy through surrender, truth, and grace.

John introduces John the Baptist as a witness to the light. God always sends witnesses of joy before He brings fulfillment. John the Baptist was not the joy himself, but he pointed people to the joy that was coming. He called people to repentance, because repentance clears the way for joy. You cannot hold onto sin and experience true joy at the same time.

The rejection of Christ shows us that joy can be resisted. People choose darkness because darkness allows control. Light exposes hearts. Joy disrupts false securities. Christ came to dismantle the lies that keep us enslaved. And many rejected Him because they did not want to let go.

Yet rejection did not stop the mission of God. Even when joy was rejected by many, it was still offered to all. The light continued to shine. Joy was not canceled by rejection; it was magnified through perseverance.

III. JOY THAT MAKES US CHILDREN OF GOD

John now turns the spotlight fully on grace: "But to all who did receive Him... He gave the right to become children of God." This is where joy becomes personal. Joy is not merely a cosmic truth; it is an individual invitation. To receive Christ is to receive joy not as a passing feeling, but as a new identity.

Notice how John describes this transformation. It is not based on bloodline, human effort, or personal will. Joy is not inherited. Joy is not earned. Joy is a gift of God. We are born again, not by human power, but by divine grace.

To become a child of God is to be welcomed into God's joy. Children do not earn their place in the family; they live in the security of love. This is the joy of the gospel. We are no longer outsiders, no longer enemies, no longer lost, we are sons and daughters.

This joy reshapes how we live. We no longer obey God to gain approval; we obey because we already belong. We no longer serve out of fear; we serve out of gratitude. Joy replaces striving. Joy replaces shame. Joy replaces despair.

Receiving Christ means trusting His name, His character, His authority, His saving work. Faith opens the door for joy to take root in our hearts. This joy is resilient. It survives suffering. It endures hardship. It stands firm even when circumstances shake.

This is why joy is central to the Christian life. Joy is not denial of pain; it is confidence in God's grace. When we receive Christ, joy moves from being a concept to being a companion. The joy of the Lord becomes our strength.

IV. JOY MADE FLESH AND LIVING AMONG US

John reaches the pinnacle of joy with these words: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Joy did not stay distant. Joy moved in. God did not shout joy from heaven; He stepped into our pain. The incarnation is the greatest expression of joy the world has ever known.

The WORD became flesh. God entered humanity. The Creator became part of creation. The Holy One stepped into brokenness. Joy became touchable, visible, relational. Jesus experienced our weakness so that we could experience His joy.

The word "dwelt" means tabernacled. God pitched His tent among us. Just as God's glory once filled the tabernacle, now His glory is revealed in Jesus Christ. John says, "We have seen His glory." Not the glory of force, but the glory of grace and truth.

Grace and truth are the foundation of joy. Grace tells us we are loved despite our sin. Truth tells us we are changed by God's holiness. Together they produce lasting joy. From His fullness we have all received grace upon grace, joy upon joy, mercy upon mercy.

The law revealed our need, but Jesus fulfills it. The law exposed sin, but Jesus removes it. The law could guide, but Jesus transforms. This is why joy is no longer limited to a season or a song. Joy has a name, and His name is Jesus.

No one has ever seen God, but Jesus has made Him known. When we look at Christ, we see God's heart. When we look at the cross, we see joy secured through sacrifice. When we look at the resurrection, we see joy victorious over death.

May the LORD bless you, Merry Christmas!!!!

