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GALATIANS

"RECAPTURE YOUR JOY"

GALATIANS 4:12-20

I. When we help hurting people, it's like helping Jesus (vv. 12-14)

“Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe [which was part of Galatia].” (Acts 14:19-20)

“When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” ~ Jesus (Matt. 25:38-40)

“He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.” (Prov. 19:17)

POWER-POINT #1 | What we call a problem, God calls an opportunity!

“When life hands you lemons, you can make lemonade, but only God can make it sweet!”

II. You can lose the joy of your salvation (vv. 15-16)

Two Joy-Killers

- ❑ Legalism

- ❑ Sin

“Create in me a clean heart, Oh God.” Then he prayed, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” (Ps. 51:12)

POWER-POINT #2 | Happiness is a thermometer, Joy is a thermostat!

“The Christian is a person of joy... A gloomy Christian is a contradiction of terms, and nothing in history has done Christianity more harm than its connection with black clothes and long faces.”

“If you have no joy, there’s a leak in your Christianity somewhere.” (Billy Sunday)

III. It's great to be excited if you are excited about the things that matter for eternity (vv. 17-20)

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” ~ Jesus (Mark 13:31)

“They (the Jews) are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.” (Rom. 10:2-4)

POWER-POINT #3 | Will your primary passion in life matter 10,000 years from today?

You weren't made for just this life. God created you to enjoy eternity with Him.

"God has put eternity in our hearts."
(Eccl. 3:11)

Salvation is God taking you out of time and placing you in eternity.

What's happened to your joy?

If gone, ask Jesus to give it back to you.

Joy is our birthright as born-again children of the God.

Don't let anyone steal your joy!