

We are still on *rejoicing!*

Holy Spirit, thank you for yesterday, we ask that you teach us tonight and help us constantly rejoice in you!

So today we are considering the following

A. One more way to illicit rejoicing.

B. Rejoicing

1. As an attack.
2. As a defense.
3. As strength.

Then if time permits, we consider

C. Does my temperament affect my rejoicing?

Ready?

Yesterday, we considered

1. Meditation
2. Testimonies
3. Praise...as ways to 'generate' joy.

(I hope you remember that?)

Today, we want to consider *God's promises*

Have you ever received a promise from God in the place of prayer, worship, studying the word or just as you go through your regular day?

I bet the least that happened is that a smile curled up your lips.

At least that's it for me.

I remember my first trip as a child to Mr Sweet Sensation...

I was blushing sheepishly...

Jumping up and down like one Christmas chicken ♂

If you stay on that promise for a while, ruminating on it, thinking about it, meditating about it, you'll receive a *burst of joy!*

I was rejoicing only on my uncle's promise, and yes I received it when the time came!!

I have pictures of

And that's what faith is.

Like I mentioned previously, *rejoice then receive* is the way of faith...or better still.

rejoice -> receive -> rejoice

and the cycle continues.

When you keep your eyes fixed on God's promise, stay there till you receive the *substance of your faith*, and at times this is *expressed by the burst of joy you experience!*

So, what promise has God given to you from His word, _grab it and meditate upon it and allow His joy burst forth from your insides!_

Now, let's consider 3 things rejoicing can be to us

1. As an Attack!

In the part one, I briefly mentioned that _"When the devil thinks he has you in a corner, put on your dancing shoes, plug your ears, jam those praise songs and dance to the Lord in praise!"_

"Perfect recipe to confuse the guy!!" you have there.

Scripture says _'Guard your heart with all diligence....'_

Mounting guard against your heart isn't just for the things that want to come but also for things that want to go out.

So the guard practically controls what comes in and out of your heart.

Joy is one of these guards

When your heart is guarded by joy and embalmed in joy, when situations come, tough, hard, whatever, the first thing they come in contact with is joy!

So, matter what it is, you find yourself responding with joy!

When you begin to live like this, people might say you are lackadaisical... Or that you are nonchalant, but no, **you are just obeying scriptures.**

_ Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?_ Matthew 6:27 NKJV

James: 1. 2.

_ My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations..._

And the things of the spirit is foolishness to the natural man. ♂

So, it's not their fault they can't see. ♂

Attack, they say is the best form of defense, **so guard your hearts with rejoicing from now!**

2. As a defense.

Unlike attack where you have put up rejoicing even before something happens, please realize that **rejoicing is also a huge defense.**

When the devil seems to strike a blow on your life- you go back to an old habit, you lose money from a business, you got your heart broken, you are in some emotional mess - the devil wants you to stay in that pit of pity, **but you need to defend your life from sinking into the mire of sorrow**

James: 1. 2.

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations...

Romans: 8. 28.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

"...for though a righteous man falls seven times, he will rise again" Proverbs 24:16

Rise again, and sing aloud!

Show the devil who has got the wheels of your life.

Don't sit there asking for a pity party, no way!

Rise up!

Come alive!!

Rejoice in the Holy Ghost!!!!

*there

No wonder, scripture says

Romans: 14. 17. _For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and *joy in the Holy Ghost.*_

Joy is a *huge part of our kingdom* and that's why the devil constantly fights to get you down...

He wants to always steal your joy, eh, don't allow him!!

Will you?!

3. As a strength.

Nehemiah: 8. 10.

Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for *the joy of the LORD is your strength.*

Isaiah: 40.

29. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

30. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31. But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

The way of renewing strength is to rejoice!

So, you are getting tired, what's the way?

Rejoicing!!!

I set before you rejoicing today, will you choose it as the way for you?

I, Aremo Olalekan Oluwatobi, choose to rejoice, ALWAYS!