

Full Measure of Joy

Series: Ten Messages from John 17

Rod Myers

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Our text: John 17: 13 “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

Fullness is a theme in the teaching of Jesus and the apostles.

Matt.6:22, “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be **full of light**.

Matt.12: 34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks **what the heart is full of**.

Luke 4: 1 Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, (Many places in Acts regarding followers of Jesus)

John 1: 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, **full of grace and truth**.

John 6: 63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are **full of the Spirit and life**.

John 10: 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have **life, and have it to the full**.

Rom.15: 14 I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are **full of goodness**, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

2 Cor.13: 11 Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! **Strive for full restoration** (Be made complete, NASB), encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

Eph.3: 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of **all the fullness of God**.

Eph.4: 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the **whole measure of the fullness of Christ**.

Col.2: 2 My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the **full riches of complete understanding**, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ,

Col.2: 10 and in Christ you have been **brought to fullness (made complete, NASB)**

1 Tim.2: 11 A woman should learn in quietness and **full submission**.

Joy:

John 3: 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is **full of joy** when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.

John 15: 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that **your joy may be complete**.

John 16: 24 Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and **your joy will be complete**.

John 17: 13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have **the full measure of my joy within them**.

Phil.2: 2 then **make my joy complete** by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

- It is possible to be "full of" good or evil
- Fullness and maturity are cousins if not brothers, and at times identical twins.
- Fullness of light, Holy Spirit, grace and truth, life, goodness, God Himself, Christ Himself, understanding, submission are all aspects of the completeness God wants us as Christians to have.
 - God does not desire partial light; partial Holy Spirit; partial grace and truth; partial goodness; partial God; partial Christ; partial understanding; partial submission.
 - We give ALL; God gives ALL. There is no pre-nuptial agreements
- What is associated with this fullness?
 - Healthy eyes
 - The leading of the Spirit
 - The glory of the Lord
 - The words of Christ
 - The reception of a gift

- Conviction that you have it
- Striving for it
- Knowing love that surpasses knowledge
- Unity in the faith and knowledge of Jesus
- Encouraged hearts and united with others in love
- Being “in Christ”
- Learning in quietness.
- But, what specifically of the fullness of JOY in Jesus’ prayer?
 - John 17: 13 “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.
 - Hearing the bridegroom’s voice brings this JOY
 - Keeping Jesus’ commands brings JOY
 - Asking (praying) in Jesus’ name brings JOY
 - Hearing what Jesus said while he was in the world brings JOY
 - This JOY is experienced in community: *being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.*

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, ‘Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?’ Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you. We were born to manifest the glory of God that is within us...And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our fear, our presence automatically liberates others.” (Nelson Mandela)

Jesus would say that he wants you to live out of the fullness of God, life to the fullest, joy unspeakable and full of glory!