



From the Pastor's Desk:

We thank and praise God for bringing us into this new month – December 2015.

Our promise for this month is:

“...and make them joyful in my house of prayer..”

Isaiah 56:7 (NKJV)

God also blessed all of our worship services in November. Please continue to pray for all our services in Irvine, Rancho Cucamonga, Woodland Hills and Las Vegas. Also pray for our children's ministry, youth ministry and continue to uphold the Connecticut ministry.

Upcoming Events/Special Worship Services:

- **Christmas Service:** Friday, December 25th in Irvine from 9:30 am to 11:30am.
- **Watch night Service :** Thursday, December 31st in Irvine from 11:00pm to 01:30am.

We plan to have our **carol rounds** on the following days:

- Dec 5th & 6th in and around Orange County.
- Dec 18th in Rancho Cucamonga
- Dec 20th in Woodland Hills

Please check our website (www.throneofgrace.us) for timely updates on all our worship services and meetings. Also we encourage you to download our app (Throne of Grace) on your iPhone. iPad and android device. All of our Irvine and Las Vegas services can be watched live and other services are uploaded on YouTube.

Pastor Abraham K. Rajan & Indira Rajan

Throne of Grace Ministries

Promise Message – December 2015

God desires to bless us in this month of December. For this month God wants to give us a promise from Isaiah 56:7:

"...and make them joyful in my house of prayer..."

Isaiah 56:7 (NKJV)

In this verse God promises to give us joy. He is a God who delights in making His children joyful. This is what God wants for us in this month, He wants to bring us into His house and give us joy. Jesus is the only one who can give us true and everlasting joy.

Let us see how God wants to bring about this joy into our life.

1. Bringing us GOOD NEWS

"Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people."

Luke 2:10 (NKJV)

The Bible says in Luke 2 : 6 & 7 that when it was time for the baby to be born and the baby was born an angel brought the good news to the simple shepherds. An angel from heaven brought this important message to the ordinary man. The reason was that it will bring great joy to all the people and the news was that Christ is born in the city of David. The angel brought a news about something that has never happened in history and that will bring joy to all mankind. When the shepherds saw the angel they feared and the angel said fear not, I have brought good news that will bring great joy. The good news was brought to them in a period when the people had not received a prophetic word for a long time. Today God wants to bring a prophetic word from heaven to you just because it will bring you great joy. Hallelujah!!.

"And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings."

Luke 1:19 (NKJV)

First we see a group of people – the shepherds receiving the good news now we see a man – Zachariah receives the good news. An angel appears to Zachariah and brings good tidings, this is a priest who receives good news. In Luke 1:13&14 we read about the good news:

“But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.”

Luke 1:13&14

The reason he received the good news from the angel was because his prayers were heard. The thing that Zachariah and Elizabeth never had in their life God wants to bring that/give that to them and give them great joy.

We see that Zachariah questions the angel, ““How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years.” (Luke 1:18). Zachariah confesses that in the situation that he was in he is unable to believe because of his age and the age of his wife. It is at this time that the angel bring a good news into his life.

His physical condition was weak but still God wanted to give him great joy and that physical condition did not matter. You may be going through a time of inability or weakness or lack or inefficiency but that does not matter to God to bring the good news to you.

The scripture tells us that while Zachariah was serving God and angel appeared and gave him good news (Luke 1:8). They had a lack but in the midst of that they kept serving the Lord and because of that the good news came from heaven. Most of the time when we lack something the first place the enemy will attack and discourage is in the area of your ministry. We can be certain that Zachariah went through the same lack but he kept on serving God knowing that there is a God who will bring joy. Even Elizabeth would have encouraged Zachariah to keep serving and that is why it is important for husband and wife to be united in serving the Lord. God will bring joy to all who are in ministry serving the Lord.

2. *Bringing back the things we have lost*

“for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”

And they began to be merry.”

Luke 15:24 (NKJV)

The Bible here talks about the prodigal son, he was lost and now found. This son lost his position in his father’s home and not only did he lose his position he lost all that he took from his father.

*“Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country,
and he sent him into his fields to feed swine”.*

Luke 15:15 (NKJV)

In this verse we see the person who was in the position of the son is now in the position of a servant feeding pigs and struggling to get a day's meal. He was a man who lost all joy but God desired to make him joyful. God wanted to bring great joy to a man who left his father's house. In this parable see the father's heart that wants to give to the son what he has lost and bring him joy. The father's joy is to restore the son to his original position. Sometimes in our lives we lose our joy because we have lost something. But our God is a God of restoration, He is faithful and able to restore to us what we have lost.

*“Be glad then, you children of Zion,
And rejoice in the Lord your God;
For He has given you the former rain faithfully,
And He will cause the rain to come down for you—
The former rain, And the latter rain in the first month.
The threshing floors shall be full of wheat,
And the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil.
“So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten,
The crawling locust, The consuming locust,
And the chewing locust,
My great army which I sent among you.
You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
And praise the name of the Lord your God,
Who has dealt wondrously with you;
And My people shall never be put to shame.”*

This verse says the Lord will restore and the main reason that He would do that is so that He can bring joy into your life. When David sinned, his prayer was give me the joy of salvation and God gave him back his joy. He is a God who restores our joy. The Bible says his hand is not shortened that he cannot redeem something for us, His arms are outstretched towards us to restore.

3. Bringing us out of captivity

*"..... For I will cause the captives of the land to return as at the first,' says the Lord."
Jeremiah 33:11 (NKJV)*

When God turns our captivity back He brings us great joy and gladness. The Israelites were under the slavery of the Egyptians and kept praying unto God and because of that God raised Moses. And He tells Moses that I heard the cry of my people out of Egypt. God not only heard their cry but He tells Moses that He is reminded of the promise He made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that He will bless His children. These are people who were to be blessed but they are now under slavery and God wants to change that to bring them joy. Maybe God made a covenant with your parents and God will remember that and because of that He can bring joy to you. He is a God who keeps His covenant over generations (Exodus 2:25). We know that there was great joy after the Israelites crossed the red sea just like that God will bring you out of your captivity and fill you with joy.

Let the Lord bless this message to you and bring His good news to you and your family.