World Harvest presents ...

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2nd Edition

TENT MINISTRY



PAKISTAN STYLE



Let the People of God Rejoice !!!

DON'T LET THE DEVIL STEAL YOUR JOY !!!

What a **dynamite revelation** into the transformative overcoming power of — **The JOY of The Lord**!

And wow — did I ever **need this encouraging word** Sunday morning — as I was preaching a great tent meeting in the Kasur District of Pakistan — a service originally meant to simply be a special follow-up meeting after our mass outdoor crusade in Kasur City the night before — which was the main campaign of three this trip — into which we had poured the bulk of the funding — $25,000 USD to be exact — and the coordinators had assured me of a massive crowd of at least **60,000 or more**!



This was my favourite character this morning in the tent — as seldom have I seen anyone so full of the Joy of the Lord

But despite all the planning and continuous good weather forecasts — on all local and global networks — which all showed a nice clear sunshine day with no rain — **a devastating freak storm suddenly appeared out of nowhere** at about 3:00 that afternoon — centred directly over Kasur City — with hours of lashing rain, high speed winds — and even a barrage of hail stones — **right in the middle of Dry Season** — which completely destroyed the set-up before anything could even begin.

Was it a direct attack of the evil one — or just some very freak event of nature — we don't know — but it was so centred over the campaign grounds and strategically timed that I personally believe it must have been a spiritual attack — and so did my coordinator Pastor Rizwan Fasal.

But regardless of source — the result was the same — the **campaign was destroyed** — all the funds we had put into this great outreach seemingly lost — including all the much more than usual monies we had sent to hire about 100 big buses to bring many extra thousands of unreached people from the poor surrounding regions.

Everything appeared to be lost — everything temporarily gone and destroyed — at least so it seemed for the moment — and I was feeling utterly devastated — but there was — **NO WAY I WAS GOING TO LET THE DEVIL STEAL MY JOY!!!**



He suffered a very bad back — full of excruciating pain — and crippling him up — instantly healed and jumping joyfully like a jack rabbit

So at my persistence coupled with Pastor Rizwan's immediate agreement — within a couple hours we had already put a back-up plan into place — a plan that would turn this — **TEMPORARY DEFEAT INTO ULTIMATE VICTORY** — even if it meant I had to stay an extra week in Pakistan.

More on that in my next magazine — but the fact remains — I was momentarily devastated — and I was certainly — **NOT Feeling The Joy of The Lord**!

But something wonderful happened immediately after the storm — as Sunday morning — a mere twelve hours after that freak storm stopped — I preached God's encouraging faith-building Word on the topic of — **NEVER NEVER NEVER GIVE UP!**

And as usual — I was privileged to see a myriad of precious Pakistani souls receive Christ as Lord and Saviour — and then I prayed a mass prayer — and got to witness the **expressions of wonder and exuberant praise** of all those who received instantaneous miracles that morning.

But the thing that struck me most was the **SHEER JOY** splashed across many of the faces!

And it was at that precise moment — as once again I beheld the marvel of God's Grace at work — that one of my favourite verses flashed through my mind:

"THE JOY OF THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH!" *Nehemiah 8:10*

A sudden gush of the Joy of Christ burst forth in my heart like an eruption from the wellspring of life — that wonderful sense of **JOY UNSPEAKABLE** that brings refreshed strength to each and every one of us!

But just as suddenly as that fresh sense of joy flooded my heart — I remembered why I had never before preached a full message on this highly loved and much quoted verse!

Because it seemed like God had almost mysteriously set this dynamic verse about His Joy and Strength in what many — including me — had always considered **a very negative context** — a setting which until that morning I had never before fully grasped — nor the true spiritual significance thereof — and I do not think I am alone in that paradox.



Over and over he squatted right down to the floor and would then leap straight up



And the ear splitting grin on his face and the sparkling shine in his eyes told the story — he was full of the Joy of the Lord



His Joy was contagious — and the entire tent cheered as he leapt over and over — totally healed — and rejoicing in Jesus

Of course — we all know this scripture — and **we all love to quote it** — especially at such times that we are in a joyful mood or euphoric state of being — or when we have just experienced another tremendous breakthrough or a much needed answer to prayer — all of which are great causes for joy — and at other times simply as part of a good positive confession of the blessing and delight of knowing Jesus!

But **WHAT IS** this euphoric state of heart and soul that the Bible calls — **THE JOY OF THE LORD.**

And — **WHERE DOES IT COME FROM**!

And most important — **WHAT DOES IT DEPEND UPON**!

For surely such an ecstatic state of Heaven-Sent **Joy cannot be dependant upon our circumstances or our feelings!**

Or else the first sign of difficulty, problem or serious setback would immediately strip us of whatever Joy we had — along with the Strength of God that is promised to come with it.

Much the same as the temporary setback that had been trying to steal my joy that morning!

And it just as certainly **cannot be dependant upon our own performance** — or our fickle sense of self righteousness — nor our futile efforts to gain God's Favour through good works!

Or else the moment we are struck with a sense of guilt or short coming — be it for failure in deed or failure in thought — our joy would drain away quicker than the last gasp of a sputtering spigot — long before we could even finish our first cup of morning coffee!

So here is a monumental question that we must all settle in our hearts if we are to — **keep our joy in all circumstances**!

But first and foremost we must determine — what exactly is this JOY OF THE LORD dependant on!

And the correct answer is none other than a bedrock assurance of — **God's Divine Presence — His Unchanging Faithfulness — His Forever Love — His Unmerited Grace — and His Infallible Promises!**

Which dynamic truths immediately jump to the forefront with this scripture in Nehemiah — especially when we examine this verse in its full and proper context.

As in a period shortly after the Israelites Return from Babylonian Exile to rebuild the Temple — around 459 BC — the prophet Nehemiah records how the priestly scribe named Ezra gathered



This precious lady was another filled with joy — partially paralyzed down her entire right side — said the entire right side of her body had been sleeping — and she could not lift her paralyzed arm — all fixed now — and freely walking back and forth — and wonderfully filled with the Joy of the Lord



Her lame paralyzed arm shooting straight up — totally amazed at the Love and Power of this wonderful Jesus who had just saved and healed her

ONLY ONE SOURCE FOR THE JOY OF THE LORD

~JESUS~

all the people of Israel together and then read to them — **THE BOOK OF THE LAW** — non-stop for about four hours straight or more that morning — talk about a long message!

And the result — the people were cut to the core at the awesome Holiness of God — the God they had Forsaken — and the Law they had Forgotten!

And the Bible states — ***"all the people WEPT, when they heard the words of the LAW."*** *Nehemiah 8:8*

Now take a moment to imagine this scene as — **all Israel wept** — not out of their deep love and devotion for the Law — but rather because of the fact they had just been confronted with the glaring reality that — **they were all Law Breakers!**

A bunch of unworthy sinners — undone — unworthy — and **deserving of nothing more than judgment**.

Exactly the same as the preaching of the Law will do to each and everyone of us today — every time we foolishly or mistakingly elevate the Law of Moses above the Grace of God!

"For by the deeds of THE LAW there shall no flesh be justified in His sight." *Romans 3:20*

Which makes it clear that no one — past or present — could ever be saved by the LAW — for even though the LAW was holy and just and right and good — it had no power to cleanse or to transform.

So all it could ever produce was **guilt and shame and condemnation** — exactly as it did that morning when Ezra read the Law to the Israelites about 450 years before the coming of Christ!

And **the Law has never changed** — it still finds us guilty — and it still condemns — and it still leaves people feeling unworthy, hopeless and undone — yet that is all many unfortunately still preach to this day.

Forgetting that the Law was specifically designed to be our — **SCHOOL TEACHER** — pointing us all — both Jews and Gentiles — to our universal need of a Sinless Saviour — that in and through Christ — *"we might be*



This man had a somewhat different experience — as his shoulders and chest were so filled with pain that he could not lift his arms at all — prayed and then went out of the tent — and to his shock suddenly his arms shot straight up — everything working good — came back to testify — then said the condition had been caused by acute heart disease — the doctors had put stents in his heart six months earlier — which made it so he could not raise his arms — suddenly everything working good



Suddenly everything working — his heart felt fine — the constant throbbing pain in his chest all gone — his shoulders working freely — everything normal — as another soul was wonderfully saved and experienced the Love and Joy of Jesus

justified by faith!" Galatians 3:24-26

Now with that little bit of contextual backdrop — here comes the **paradoxical pivot point** of this passage — as right in the middle of the people's remorse and repentance comes this **delightful dichotomy** — a verse so contradictory to its setting that it almost seems like it must have been inserted in the wrong place!

Which in a sense serves as an Old Testament glimpse or foreshadowing into the **New Covenant** that was coming — and the Marvellous Grace and Undeserved Acceptance and Unmerited Favour that Christ our Saviour would bring about through the Finished Work of the Cross!

For as Ezra the priest finishes reading the LAW — and as he sees and senses the people's anguish of heart and dismal dismay over their failure to keep it — he suddenly shifts the message.



This happy fellow had suffered with a serious lung condition that left him coughing steady all day and all night — but God had instantly healed him — everything normal and no more constant coughing every minute

Almost like a clean break from Old Testament Law and Tradition — much the same as Jesus would do at the Cross — and he makes this totally unexpected Grace-Filled statement:

*"Go your way — **EAT THE FAT** — **DRINK THE SWEET** — and **SEND PORTIONS** to those for whom nothing is prepared — for this day is holy to our Lord." Nehemiah 8:9*

Now — let us try to catch the magnitude of this phenomenal statement — especially since this is an Old Testament event — where adherence to Levitical Law was the Gold Standard of Spirituality — and the entire nation had just been firmly indicted for Forsaking and Breaking the Law of God.

And yet the priestly scribe instructs them — **NOT TO MOURN** — but rather to:

EAT THE FAT — remembering that according to Levitical Law all the fat belonged to God — the fat was holy — it represented abundance and provision — and all Israel was strictly commanded to sacrifice all the fat to the Lord — but suddenly it is as if the priestly scribe throws the Door of Grace wide open and says — Enter In — Eat the Fat — and enjoy the blessing and abundance of God!

DRINK THE SWEET — after all this was festival time — a time for the nation to rejoice and to enjoy their Covenant Relationship with God — so indulge yourself — be happy — drink the sweet — enjoy the wine of God's Holy Presence!

AND SEND PORTIONS — be generous — share your blessing with others — have fellowship one with another — bless your neighbour — and one could surely add in a New Covenant mandate — send a Portion for Missions that others may also



As he testified of how Jesus had touched him in the mass prayer and instantly healed his lung condition — he choked up — then began to cry — and then gave me a big joyful hug of appreciation

enjoy the blessings of Christ — and be happy — God is in control and He is your abundant provider!

So for those who think there is no **GRACE** in the Old Testament — this verse clearly proves there was — in fact this is perhaps one of the greatest examples.

Especially when we remember that these same people had just been deeply convicted by about four hours or more of strict rigid Dictates from the Book of the Law which they could never keep or live up to — and yet God literally invites this entire group of LAW BREAKERS to His BANQUETING TABLE!

That my friend is — **AMAZING GRACE** — and it is filled with shades of **New Covenant blessings and realities**!

But it does not stop there — as with the very next line — which is our principle verse — he states:

*"Do not sorrow — for — **THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH.**" Nehemiah 8:10*

So by now the picture should be coming clear — for as wonderful as this verse is when it stands alone — as most Christians know it and are prone to quote it — it is actually the contextual setting that gives it far more spiritual depth — along with a fresh infusion of joyful strength to the believer!

As it becomes increasingly obvious that this **JOY OF THE LORD** must be fully rooted and grounded in something much greater than our own fickle feelings — or our shifting circumstances which are in a constant state of flux!

But rather upon a consistent unchanging indwelling resident Presence and Power that is — immovable, irrevocable and unshakable — **A CONSTANT THAT NEVER CHANGES —** regardless of what we may be going through or experiencing at any given moment!

Which for me that Sunday morning in Pakistan — included having a well planned mass overseas campaign torn to shreds and temporarily set back — whether it was caused by devil or by nature — it did not matter — as —

THE JOY OF THE LORD WAS STILL MY STRENGTH!



This happy lady was another who had suffered with extreme pain in her shoulders so she could not lift her hands or arms — but not anymore



Her arms shooting up and down — as the Joy of Jesus filled her heart and soul



She had been suffering with acute asthma and serious lung problems — happy and blessed and breathing clear and easy

So I pray this remarkable truth resonates in all our spirits — for if we can grasp what truly occurred here in this Old Testament story — we will begin to experience **a whole new dimension of the inherent power and beauty of this scripture**!

Now here comes one of the greatest truths of this entire passage — for when we understand the setting we realize the people of God had just returned from 70 years of exile — they were rebuilding the Temple of God — so in essence this was really a — **REFORMATION MOMENT**.

And an entire generation of Covenant People were being re-introduced and reminded of the biblical reality that despite their many sins and failures they were still — **GOD'S COVENANT CHILDREN** — and partakers of the Covenant Blessings!

And much like these Israelites — we just as surely need to be reminded — and to remind ourselves — that this is who we are as well.



What a happy young Mama — her precious little boy suffering with a terrible fever — instantly gone — and the Joy of the Lord shining bright — what a Loving Jesus we serve

In fact — we are even much more blessed than they were — for we are **CHILDREN OF THE NEW COVENANT** — the **COVENANT OF GRACE** — which is based upon better promises, a better sacrifice and a better priesthood — and all the New Covenant blessings are ours in Christ Jesus!

Which leads us to our greatest cause for JOY — which as already stated has absolutely nothing to do with our feelings or our temporal circumstances — for **OUR JOY IS IN CHRIST AND CHRIST ALONE**!

And that Joy comes from knowing God — His Heart — His Character — and His Faithfulness — which brings a deep seated inner assurance that:

GOD IS WITH US — GOD IS IN US — HE IS OURS — WE ARE HIS — HE IS FOR US — AND WE ARE FOR HIM!

Never forgetting that — He has washed our sins away — Imparted His Own Righteousness to us — Accepted us in the Beloved — Seated us with Him in Heavenly Places — Bestowed His Many Blessings upon us — made us Victorious in Christ — and calls us More Than Conquerors!

He Protects us — He Supplies our Every Need — He will Never Leave us — He will Never Forsake us — and best of all — **He Loves Us with an Everlasting Love**!

In essence we are — **HIS COVENANT CHILDREN** — and we are the Blessed of the Lord!



This happy fellow was yet another with a lame arm this morning — and he could not lift it at all— happy happy happy now as his arm was suddenly working like it used to — giving praise to God and saying there is no one who can heal like Jesus — and readily obvious he had been filled with the Joy of the Lord

And once those divinely imparted New Creation Realities are grafted deep into our hearts by Grace — how could we exude anything except — **JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY!**

For we have just cause and divine privilege to be the Happiest and Most Joyful People in the World — Children of the Most High God — and no negative circumstance or feeling of discouragement will ever change that fact!

Now as we approach the close of this little discourse — we have still not fully answered the question of what exactly this Joy of the Lord will do in our lives — or why it is such a powerful life changing force — or as scripture states — why it is called **YOUR STRENGTH**!

So here is one more dynamic faith-building nugget of truth from this amazing scripture — as the word — **STRENGTH** — is the Hebrew word pronounced — **MAW-OZE** — which is more properly or primarily translated as — **STRONGHOLD.**

Indicating that the JOY OF THE LORD is our — Place of Safety — Protection — Refuge — Harbour — Strength — and — **OUR FORTIFIED STRONGHOLD**!

WOW WOW WOW — no wonder we can all lift our voices and joyfully shout along with David:

*"The LORD is my **ROCK** — and my **FORTRESS** — my **DELIVERER** — my **GOD** — and my **STRENGTH** — in whom I will trust — my **SHIELD** — and the **HORN OF MY SALVATION** — **MY STRONGHOLD**!" Psalm 18:2*

And what exactly is that Strength — that is turned or translated into a Spiritual Fortress — none other than the Joy of the Lord — an Impenetrable Fortress — a Stronghold of Deliverance — and **a Bastion of Blessing**!

So for those going through a struggle — facing a challenge — overwhelmed with grief — or battling some seemingly insurmountable issue — **Get Happy — Get Joyful** — and let the Joy of the Lord be your strength — and your fortress — exactly as the Psalmist declared when he wrote:

*"The Salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord — **HE IS THEIR STRENGTH IN TIME OF TROUBLE** — the Lord **HELPS** them — He **DELIVERS** them from the wicked — and **SAVES** them — because they take refuge in Him." Ps.37*



This fellow had been suffering for a long time with kidney disease — and God touched him in the Tolowal campaign the weekend before — he had since been to the hospital — where doctors checked him over and told him there was no more kidney disease — look at those sparkling eyes & the Joy of the Lord on his face



This was another very excited old Mama — suffering with excruciating pain all over her body — every joint and every bone and muscle in her body throbbed — but all gone now — and how she praised God with the Joy of the Lord all over her

So saints — it's time to put on a Happy Face — and don't let circumstances — or some failure — or some obstacle — or some devil — or any other diabolical thing — steal your joy!

Instead of sorrow — put an ear-splitting grin on your face — get happy — dig deep in your heart and realize how much He has already blessed you — be thankful to Him — exalt His Word over all your circumstances — and walk in the Joy of the Lord.

For that **Joy is your Strength — your Fortress — Your Refuge — your Place of Safety and Victory** — and it holds a far greater Power for Blessing than any negative circumstance you will ever face!

AND NEVER FORGET — just like your salvation — you cannot earn this Joy — you cannot buy it — you will never do enough good works to deserve it — for it is and always has been — **ALL BY GRACE** — so quit striving and simply receive it — walk in it — and enjoy it!

AND NEVER LET THE DEVIL STEAL YOUR JOY — for it is Your Strength!!

Now one last question — have you ever noticed in my myriad of magazine reports that in almost all the pictures — **I usually have a big excited grin splashed across my face.**

Believe me — it is not because I don't face issues — challenges — obstacles — setbacks — or struggles.

After all — I am every bit as human as you are — and I fight my battles every day — far more than most would ever realize — but there is something wonderful that God has graciously deposited in my heart — and that is — the JOY OF THE LORD — and it is — **ALL BY HIS GRACE**!

For By Grace — **the Joy of Christ totally shifts the focus** from our circumstances and our challenges and our feelings — **to the Lord Himself** — and then **HIS JOY** is translated into **OUR STRENGTH** — and His Joy will just as surely be your Strength as well!



Precious lady suffering with a very rapid heart beat and full of chest pain — totally calm and normal after the mass prayer

So despite the serious challenges I was facing — along with the temporary setback of our main Kasur campaign — that wonderful Joy of the Lord was still flowing freely with power and blessing in the huge tent this Sunday morning in Pakistan — all praise be to Jesus!

So let's shout it out one more time together — ***"NO SORROW!"***

For surely:

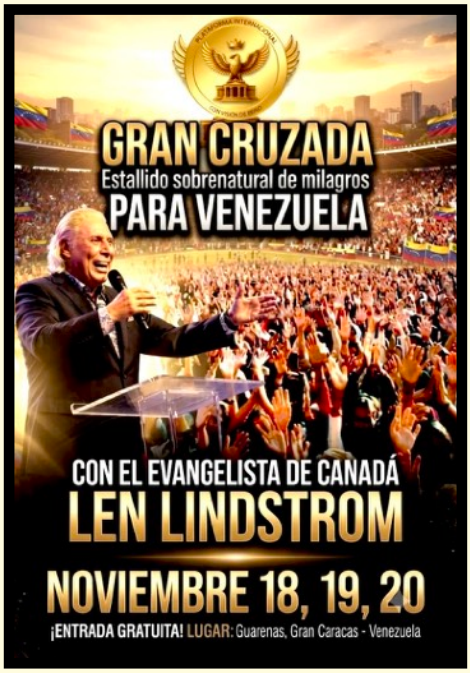
"THE JOY OF THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH."

OUR NEXT MAGAZINE
KASUR CITY
PAKISTAN
FROM DEFEAT TO VICTORY

"You will show me the PATH of LIFE; In Your presence is FULNESS of JOY; At Your right hand are PLEASURES FOREVERMORE." Psalm 16:11

Our Next 2 Mass Campaigns Are Coming Up Fast

VENEZUELA





GUERENAS STADIUM
NOV 19-21

CARACAS STADIUM
NOV 26-28

This is a massive undertaking — and it will surely be the Highlight Of The Year — and I urgently need your help !!!

For the Joy of Christ — for the Love of Souls

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

Help us touch this hurting partly open nation for God

GIVE A PORTION FOR MISSIONS — LET'S SHARE THE JOY OF CHRIST — AND LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER

Now let's apply those marvellous GRACE-FILLED Instructions of Ezra

'EAT THE FAT'
Personally partake of the Goodness of God — and enjoy His Blessing and Abundance

'DRINK THE SWEET'
Rejoice — indulge in the Goodness of God — and enjoy the Sweet Wine of His Holy Presence

'SEND A PORTION'
Be generous and share the Goodness of God — by Sending a Portion for Missions so Others can Enjoy the Blessings of Christ

And do it all with Joy and Thanksgiving

FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL JOYFUL GIVER
2 Corinthians 9:7

THE JOY OF THE LORD
IS THE STRENGTH OF EVANGELISM



WE SOW WITH JOY — WE REAP WITH JOY

MY DEAR JOYFUL SOUL-WINNING PARTNER,

Thank you for rejoicing with me in the Harvest — things may be rough at times — challenges — setbacks — or trials — but we never let the devil steal our joy — and we keep sowing and reaping with JOY!

And our next venture — VENEZUELA — is going to be a tremendous cause for JOY — So little wonder the challenges have been so great — and the needs still so pressing — and the time so urgent — as I still need to rapidly raise over $50,000 — but thank God — I have friends and partners like you who can envision the tens of thousands who will come to Christ — and will SOW GENEROUSLY and with GREAT JOY!

ESPECIALLY as this appeal becomes even more URGENT — less than two weeks to the first stadium campaign — so please — SOW SOME LOVE FOR VENEZUELA — and remember the words of Ezra — Eat the Fat — Drink the Sweet — and SEND A PORTION to reach precious souls in this Marxist nation!

1) Write a CHECK and send it to the ministry address below — or
2) E-TRANSFER and send a text to 1-250-300-8082 — or email funds at: LenLindstromGlobal.com — or
3) Use CREDIT CARD by simply clicking this secure link: www.lenlindstromglobal.com/give

Thank You — Now Be Blessed & KNOW YOU ARE GREATLY LOVED AND APPRECIATED !!!

Len Lindstrom

GOD LOVES A JOYFUL GIVER

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