

## *The Reasons to Rejoice*

*“Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)*

Why do you rejoice? If you meditate to this question you will find yourself giving many reasons why you rejoice or why you are happy.

We address this question to a number of people. And we came out with many answers. Some said, “Because I have a good wife, a good husband, a nice family, good and obedient children, a good job, a good salary, bigger house to live, a good garden, and good neighbor.” Others said, “because of my success in study, progress in my profession, wonderful career life.” Yet another said, “Because my business is growing and blooming, I now have a big account in the bank and was able to pay all my debts.”

One time Jesus sent out Seventy Two of His disciples; those who believed and followed Him. He sent them to every town and place where He was about to go. He sent them to tell the people about who is He; to inform them that He is the One whom God appointed as Judge of the living and the dead; to tell the people that Jesus is the Saviour that God sent to this world; that salvation is found in no one else but in the name of Jesus, because there is no other name on heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Jesus, when he sent His disciples, He gave them the authority to heal the sick and to drive out the evil spirits and demons that cause sicknesses, anxieties and depressions. Truly the disciples who followed Jesus did just as He told them to do. They preached to the people that the kingdom of God is near. They healed the sick and they casted out evil spirits and demons by the authority of Jesus that He had given them. And they returned with joy and said to Jesus, “**Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.**” Jesus acknowledged their reports and He said, “**I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**” “**I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy and nothing will harm you.**”

There is a greater reason that should cause us to rejoice: When we accept Jesus as our personal Saviour and Lord we have the peace and the assurance of having eternal life. And from the joy of having eternal life we share to the people our experiences with Jesus – with our faith in Him that brought us to a new life, new hope and wonderful experiences with God. We wish to tell others about Jesus in order that they may believe and be blessed as well.

Indeed, as we tell others about Jesus and we proclaim that we trust in Him, we receive healing from many sicknesses. Like wise those who listen and believe to what we speak about Jesus, also they are healed and delivered from any burden. They feel the real love, joy and peace because they have a place in heaven. As the

result, we rejoice seeing them changed and saved, and thousands of angels in heaven rejoice with us.

This is what had happened to the disciples that Jesus sent. They did as Jesus told them and they came back filled with joy because even the evil spirits submitted to them. But Jesus answered them, “**However, do not rejoice that the evil spirits submit to you, but rejoice because your name is written in heaven.**”

What Jesus had told them is this: “The reason of your rejoicing, it should not be because the people listened to you and believed. It should not be because the Lord is doing miracles and healing the sick through your life, but rejoice because you are a part of God’s Kingdom, that your names are written in heaven.”

We rejoice when we achieve things; we rejoice when we win, when we see miracles. We rejoice when we pray and God answers our prayer. We rejoice when we preach about Jesus and people believe in His Name. We rejoice because God is suing us in His glorious church. All theses could be the reason to rejoice, but Jesus emphasized that the main reason to rejoice is that – Our names are written in heaven; we will go to heaven and we will live with God forever.

A boy is happy when you give him a candy; indeed he will cry if you take it back. We are the children of God though faith in Christ Jesus, and we rejoice for every good thing we are receiving through His name. It gives joy in our hearts, and that joy inspires us to move on in this life on earth to achieve more and to progress continually until we reach the goals that God set ahead for us.

On the contrary, if we rely on what we achieve and what we gain as the reasons for our rejoicing, all these things in a time or another may be taken away from us. And if it is gone for any cause our rejoicing ceases. When the reason of our joy is taken away we are discouraged, sad and definitely we become paralyzed – unable to move anymore.

Thus Jesus taught us that our reason to rejoice should be because our names are written in heaven and that it would never be changed or erased. For this cause, we will continue to have the joy in our hearts and that joy will motivate us and will give us the desire and the power to go on in life. Whatever the circumstances or difficulty we still can face and bear it with rejoicing, for knowing that we have a place in heaven will refresh and strengthen us to overcome burdens, and make us achieve victories by the authority and the power that Jess has given to us.

**My Prayer:** “*Heavenly Father, I rejoice because my name is written in heaven. I rejoice because Jesus died for me and all my sins are forgiven, and I have a place in heaven. Now Lord, I am victorious, I am more that a conqueror through Jesus who gave me the power, the authority and the true reason to rejoice. Thank you, Lord. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.*”