



## Eternal Joy In the Resurrection of Christ

### Key idea:

We were made for joy in this life and in eternity, but it is only found in God and is secured for us in the resurrection of Christ.

### Key text:

Psalm 16

Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. <sup>2</sup> I said to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.” <sup>3</sup> As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight. <sup>4</sup> The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips. <sup>5</sup> Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. <sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. <sup>7</sup> I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. <sup>8</sup> I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, <sup>10</sup> because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. <sup>11</sup> You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Psalm 16

### Key points:

1. All humans are on a quest for joy. They may search for it in different ways, but they are all seeking joy.
2. We are tempted to find our joy in false “gods” - things that we believe will give us true joy but which ultimately end in sorrow.
3. The Source of all True Joy is God Himself! Every other joy we can find in this life is but an echo of the Joy that is God Himself!
4. The resurrection of Jesus guarantees our resurrection from the dead and into eternal joy, the realization of everything for which we have longed our entire lives.

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Augustine said "Every man, whatsoever his condition, desires to be happy. There is no man who does not desire this, and each one desires it with such earnestness that he prefers it to all other things; whoever, in fact, desires other things, desires them for this end alone." (Augustine, Sermon 306) Do I agree with Augustine? Why or why not?
3. What other "gods" tempt me to think that I will find joy in them? Why am I tempted to believe that these "gods" will give me true joy?
4. If everything I do is seeking joy, what does that tell me about sin? Why do I give in to temptation? What does it tell me about my love and desire for Jesus at that moment?
5. If the Source of all True Joy is God Himself and every other joy we can find in this life is but an echo of the Joy that is God Himself, how should I view the things which bring me joy? What is the proper response to these things which are "echoes" of the True Joy?
6. If God is True Joy, how should this affect the way I talk with others about Jesus and the Gospel?
7. How does the resurrection of Christ open the door for me to find true joy?
8. when I think of the joys of eternal life in heaven, what things come to my mind? In heaven will I still find 'echoes' of joy in other things? How will my joy in these things be different in heaven than now?
9. Who will I call or see to invite to gather with the church this week?