The Angels Rejoice!

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Text: Lk. 15:7, 10; Rom. 6

### Intro

1. There is something about “new life” that excites people.
   1. There is great joy in having a child born into your family! (Psalm 127:3-5)
   2. There is a great joy in having a grandchild born into your family!
   3. Have you experienced this joy in your life?
   4. It’s as if a newborn is God’s way of saying the world should go on!
2. While a physical new life gives great joy on earth, all of heaven rejoices over a spiritual “new life!” (Lk. 15:7, 10)
   1. While angel visits of the past are not repeated, Jesus said the angels celebrate the sinner who repents, thus the “rejoicing” of the angels continues today!
   2. Rom. 6:3-4: Once born again *(Jn. 3:1-7)*, one must walk in “newness of life.”
3. What is the “newness of life” that causes angels in Heaven to rejoice?

#### Life of Eternal Deliverance

* 1. Rom. 6:1-10: Deliverance from the old way of life, one’s “old self.”
  2. Old Self – Rom. 6:5-7
     1. The sinner – Eph. 4:22-24
     2. Corrupt – Eph. 4:22
     3. Deeds are evil (corrupt) – Col. 3:9
  3. Body of sin – Rom. 6:6
     1. All the sins we commit in our lives – Rom. 6:23: Brings death. *(Heb. 8:12: God forgives and forgets)*
  4. Slaves to sin – Rom. 6:6
     1. Sin dominates, controls, and reigns if we let it (Rom. 6:12).
  5. The Eternal Deliverance – Rom. 6:2-7
     1. Old Self: Crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:6)
     2. Body of Sin: Done away with, buried (Rom. 6:4)
     3. Slaves to sin: Death with Christ through baptism frees one from sin! (6:6-7)
     4. Once obedient to the gospel through baptism, we are dead to sin and live in “newness of life!”
  6. “Newness of life” begins with the death of our old self and a new life with Christ!

#### Life of Different Decisions

* 1. Rom. 6:11-20: A life of no longer living according to one’s own desires!
  2. Do not let sin reign – Rom. 6:12
     1. To reign is to control or rule.
     2. No longer to obey our lusts & sinful desires – Rom. 6:12; Js. 1:14-15
     3. Sin not to be master over our lives – Rom. 6:14
  3. Not to present body to unrighteousness but to righteousness – Rom. 6:13
     1. This means we must make different decisions in our lives.
     2. I Pet. 4:1-4: After being delivered from sin, now is the time to live for God!
     3. We are no longer to crave evil things, or give in to the lusts of the world!
  4. Change from slaves of sin to slaves of righteousness – Rom. 6:16-18
     1. We will obey the lusts of the world (sin) which results in death or we will become obedient to the will of God, resulting in righteousness.
     2. Obedience comes from the heart; meaning a change of thinking, reasoning, decision making, and focus on things of God.
  5. Different Decisions – Rom. 6:12-13: Decisions with eternity in mind!
     1. We are to be “instruments of righteousness to God.”
     2. Rom. 12:9: “Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.”
     3. I Thess. 5:21-22: “Hold fast” to what is good; “Abstain from every appearance of evil.” *(Think of our actions, example, influence, and credibility)*
     4. That means we need to be conscious of the “will of God” *(I Pet. 4:2)* in the decisions we make!
  6. “Newness of life” entails living as “instruments of righteousness to God!”

#### Life of Eternal Reward

* 1. Rom. 6:21-23: Two eternal outcomes from deeds in life: Newness of life leads to reward!
  2. One possible destiny: Death – Rom. 6:21, 23
     1. Death is separation: physical (bodies from spirit) and spiritual (soul from God)
     2. Separation from God is the 2nd death of eternal punishment – II Thess. 1:9; Rev. 20:14-15
  3. Old self was on road to death – Rom. 6:20-21 (Mt. 7:13-14)
     1. The old way of life was futile and its outcome was death!
  4. Another possible destiny: Eternal life – Rom. 6:22-23
     1. The free gift of God is eternal life found in Christ (Rom. 6:8-10: Christ broke the bonds of death so that we may live with Him).
  5. New life is on road to eternal life with Christ – Rom. 6:22 (Mt. 7:13-14)
     1. Rom. 6:8, 11: If our old self died (and was buried) then our new self is to live *for* Christ so that we may live *with* Him!
     2. I Pet. 1:3-5: We were “born again” to receive an imperishable inheritance, a reservation in Heaven!
  6. The reward – Rom. 2:7; Rev. 21:3-7
     1. Glory, honor, and eternal life in the presence of God Almighty – Rev. 22:1-7
  7. “Newness of life” leads to eternal life with Christ our King and Savior!

## Conclusion

1. If you have this “newness of life,” enjoy it! Continue to walk in it!
2. If you don’t, then now is your chance to obtain it!
3. Jesus came to give life (Jn. 10:10)
4. You can have the “newness of life” that leads to eternal life if you obey “from the heart” the Lord’s commands to:
   1. Repent – *Rom. 2:4-8*
   2. Confess the Lord as the Son of God – *Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 8:37*
   3. Be baptized – *Rom. 6:3-7; Acts 2:38*
   4. Walk in obedience – *Rom. 6:4; Jn. 8:31-32; 15:10*
5. We choose to be obedient either to sin or to righteousness! *(Rom. 6:16)*
   1. Sin leads to death, righteousness to eternal life!
   2. Forgiveness for sins happens when we are obedient to the gospel!
6. Choose the death of your old self so that you may live for Christ in “newness of life!”
7. The angels rejoice in Heaven over the sinner who repents and begins a “new life!”
8. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Won’t you give Heaven cause to rejoice over your obedient decision? Repent and be baptized into His name!
9. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Give the angels reason to celebrate over your repentance! Repent and be renewed!
10. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!