

## For They Are The Rejoicing Of My Heart

I. Introduction: On April 18th, 2021 we had a lesson on the balanced handling of knowledge (<https://www.wordsoftruth.net/abalancedhandleonknowledge2021.html>). Within that lesson, the point was made that knowledge can be burdensome because it brings sorrow (**Ecclesiastes 1:18**). That is an indisputable fact!

A. When we learn the truth the first reaction is that truth is sweet (**Psalms 119:103**).

1. Like the prophets experienced however, sometimes the effect later brings bitterness (**Ezekiel 2:8-3:3;14** and **Revelation 10:9-10**).
2. For most of us, this is because we realize how many people are lost and that we cannot do much about that (**Psalms 119:136** and **Romans 9:1-3**).
3. Even Jesus experienced this (**Luke 19:41-44**).

B. So, how do we balance that? Isn't it about our focus (**Philippians 4:5-8**)?

1. If we decide to constantly think about those who are lost, we will be sorrowful (**Philippians 3:17-19**).
2. We don't want to completely dismiss consequences of sin on those lost, for that is motivation to help them (**II Corinthians 5:10-11**).
3. If we continually focus on the sorrowful, it will not do us good (**Proverbs 12:25** and **Proverbs 15:13**).
4. Having said that, we can/should/must consider the good that comes to us and our brethren through the word of God (**II Thessalonians 2:14-17**).

II. Body: *"Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage [meaning: inheritance] for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart"* (**Psalms 119:111**).

A. You can choose to focus on the word of God as the word of salvation rather than the word of condemnation for those you love (**Acts 13:26** and **Colossians 1:3-6**).

1. Realizing that the lost CHOOSE to be such (**Luke 7:29-30** and **Acts 13:44-46**).
  - a. If you got a vaccine and others chose not to, they died and you lived because you got the vaccine, would you blame the vaccine for their deaths? **\*Note:** *I am not personally a fan of vaccines and am not getting a Covid Vaccine, this is just an illustration not a promotion of anything.*
  - b. It has always been God's will for man to choose life (**Deuteronomy 30:19-20**, **Ezekiel 18:30-32**, and **I Timothy 2:4**).
  - c. His saving word has long been available to all mankind (**Matthew 28:16-20**, **Romans 10:17-18**, and **Romans 16:25-26**; cf. **Hebrews 8:7-13**).
2. If that weight is holding you back, set it aside (**Hebrews 12:1-3**).
3. That wisdom is found in the principle of shaking the dust (**Matthew 10:14**).

4. Rather than the lost relationships, think of the eternal ones you have gained (**Ephesians 1:10; 3:15**).

5. Focus on the enlightenment you have found (**Ephesians 1:18**).

B. You can use the word of God for your good, rather than a source of mental anguish (**Psalms 119:81** and **Acts 20:17-32**).

1. The word of God can operate effectively in your life IF you allow it to do so (**I Thessalonians 2:12-13**).

2. His word is not burdensome (**I John 5:1-3**), so if it is such for you understand that you're making it burdensome.

3. When used aright, that sweet taste continues (**Psalms 119:97-105**).

4. The word of God is an awesome guide in all things (**Psalms 119:24**, **Proverbs 6:23**, and **I John 2:24-25**).

5. If allowed, the word of God can comfort us (**Psalms 119:50**).

C. We are earthen vessels containing this treasure (**II Corinthians 4:1-7**). So, consider how we help others use the word of God to their benefit...

1. The obvious (**Romans 1:16-17**).

2. To show and remind people that God is the God of benefit and salvation (**Psalms 68:19-20**).

3. That in all the uncertainty this world has to offer, there is a constant truth that they can look to that will not perish (**I Peter 1:22-25**).

4. Think about how we can pass down the truth to the next generation (**Deuteronomy 6:1-9**, **Deuteronomy 11:16-22**, **Psalms 78:5-7**, and **II Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17**).

a. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way (**Psalms 119:9**; cf. **Proverbs 1:1-4**)?

b. Think about how our view of the Scriptures can affect the youth among us and what that can lead to (**Matthew 23:31-33**)! *\*Not that children don't have freewill (**Ezekiel 18:14-20**).*

c. Think about how the word of God becomes evil spoken of when it is not lived aright in front of others (**Titus 2:3-5**).

5. Obviously, the benefits found in the Scriptures could be a much larger and longer point. Think on that and how such benefits us and could benefit others if we so choose to help them see that!

III. Conclusion: **Psalms 19:8**, **Psalms 119:14**, **Psalms 119:162**, and **Jeremiah 15:16**