



Sermon Outlines by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

Walking In Joy (John 16:16 - 24)

I. Introduction:

1. America is under attack (without and within!); there's drought, flooding, wildfires, murders, suicides, drugs/alcohol, illegitimate babies, and I'm speaking about "Joy!"
2. "Joy" is NOT A/ AN:
 - a. Acronym (**J**esus 1st, **O**thers 2nd, **Y**ourself last) but a word!
 - b. Exciting moment: X games, dirty/ blasphemous comedy, sexual gratification **Ecclesiastes 2:1**
 - c. Drug-induced "high" **Ephesians 5:18**; **Galatians 5:21**
 - d. Euphoria of a purchase **Matthew 6:24**
3. BUT "Joy" IS:
 1. Being in God's Presence is "fullness of joy" **Psalms 16:11**
 2. Healthy Self Image; Satisfying Self respect; Sturdy Self assurance
4. In our text (**John 16:16 - 24**), Jesus explains.

II. Discussion: Healthy Self Image (John 16:20):

A. Joy is the Opposite of:

1. "Weep" *klaio* – **John 11:31, 33**; **Romans 12:15**
2. "Lament" *thraneo* – **Luke 23:27**
3. "Sorrow" *lupa* – **2 Corinthians 2:3**; **7:10**

4. All of these are caused by the seeming defeat of Jesus Christ and His cause, but overcome by His resurrection and victory!

B. Illustrated by labor pains **John 16:21**

1. Joy is that inner knowledge one has that should overcome depression and pain;
2. Joy is the "bubble" that gives buoyancy to the Christian life;
3. Even darkness at noon ends **Luke 23:44**
 - a) Sorrow of separation became joy **Luke 24:40-41**
 - b) **Romans 13:12** - "The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light."

III. Satisfied Self Respect (John 16:21**)**

A. God is Pleased

1. In Heaven **Matthew 6:10**
2. When a sinner repents **Luke 15:7, 10; Matthew 25:34**
3. **2 Corinthians 5:9-10**
4. When His People Obey **Acts 7:20; 3 John 4**

B. God's Word, when eaten, works (Jeremiah 15:16**)**

1. The saved soul (**Acts 8:35-39**)
2. At church (**Matthew 18:20**)
3. In marriage (**Genesis 2:24; 1 Corinthians 7:1-2**)
4. At home and at work (**Colossians 3:18 - 4:1**)

IV. **Sturdy Self Assurance (John 16:22b, 24)**

A. **No External Circumstance Can Shake Up "Joy"**

1. Not Jesus Christ
 - a) **Hebrews 12:2** - Joy was beneath the pain
 - b) **1 Peter 2:23** - Joy was beneath the words
2. Not Christians **James 1:2-3**
3. Not Paul **Philippians 4:11**

B. **Our "Joy" Should Only Be Shaken When/ If We Cease Obeying God's Will Galatians 5:7-8**

V. **Conclusion:**

1. In **Galatians 5:22**:
 - a. "love" is a heart bonding to God;
 - b. "joy" is a heart branded by God;
 - c. "peace" is a heart bounded with God!
2. Have you "joy" or have you been relying on the world?
3. **1 Peter 1:8-9** - "whom having not seen you love. **Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory**, receiving the end of your faith - the salvation of your souls."
4. **Psalms 51:12; Matthew 28:18-20**
5. **Hear Jesus say: "be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you" Matthew 9:2**
6. **Obedience to the Gospel of Christ brings "rejoicing" Acts 8:35-39**