



“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions!”
Psalm 45:6-7

Jesus was the happiest man to have ever walked the earth! No doubt the religious mind may question such a statement but those who have met Him have no doubt about it! Of course! To be in His presence is to experience it for ourselves – fullness of joy! (Psalm 16:11).

“But unto the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a sacrifice of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore, God, even Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows.” (Hebrews 1:8-9) His joy was contagious, children were attracted to Him. “Don’t hinder the children from coming to Me, in fact, the Kingdom of Heaven is full of those with such childlike faith and trust. (Matthew 19:14 Spencer paraphrase.). Children can readily see through the masks people wear. Jesus’ joy and love of life was easily seen and is wonderfully attractive! There is an aroma of joy and cheer that is attractive to all people!

This fruit of the Spirit – joy – is one of the first fruits that catch people’s attention. Religion has unfortunately often squeezed the joy out of Christian service. After all, “Spiritual issues are serious and somber matters,” they often say with a condescending knowing. Jesus may even be pictured as an austere figure, stern and piously demanding! These ideas couldn’t be further from the truth. For even in the greatest trial and temptation of His life it was that same joy that caused Jesus to persevere on to victory! “Who for the joy that was set before Him...” (Hebrews 12:2).

Isn’t it time for you to follow Jesus in this area as well? To so love righteousness and hate wickedness that He can share with you His “oil of gladness”?

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