

JUST REJOICE

-Ryan Parsons-

Psalm 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The other day, I walked out into the backyard, saw a beautiful sky, and felt a gentle, pleasant breeze. The words of Louis Armstrong broke out in my mind as I walked, rejoicing through the cool grass...

I see skies of blue and clouds of white

The bright blessed days, the dark sacred nights

And I think to myself

What a wonderful world

What a Wonderful World October 18, 1967

However, I may have it all wrong. It isn't the world that I should rejoice in. As I partake in the beauty around me, the emphasis shouldn't be on the day, but on the Lord who made it. Louis' words should have better been, "And I think to myself, What a wonderful Lord!"

The Psalms repeatedly speak of rejoicing. As the people were called to reflect upon the attributes of God, it isn't ultimately God's creation that produces rejoicing. It is the fact that the product or outcome points to a Heavenly Father who is completely worthy of our admiration and more than enough to spur our souls into rejoicing.

Psalm 13:5

But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

Psalm 31:7

I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul,

Psalm 97:8

Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O Lord.

Psalm 119:162

I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil.

Psalm 40:16

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

Psalm 97:12

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

Today, just rejoice!

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.