

Isaiah 66:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

Analysis

The call to rejoice: "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her." Three imperatives—rejoice (simchu), be glad (gilu), rejoice for joy (sisu mesos)—emphasize exuberant celebration. Those addressed are lovers of Jerusalem and mourners for her—the faithful who grieved over her destruction and longed for restoration. The call is to shared joy—corporate celebration, not isolated gladness. The repetition and intensity reflect the magnitude of what God has accomplished. From a Reformed perspective, this describes the church's celebration of God's redemptive work. Those who love Christ's body and mourn over sin's damage are called to rejoice in restoration and growth. The church's victories are occasions for mutual rejoicing (Luke 15:6-7, Acts 11:18, 15:3). Individual salvation brings corporate celebration. This anticipates the final great celebration when the bride is prepared for the bridegroom (Revelation 19:7-9, 21:2-4).

Historical Context

The prophecy addressed those who had mourned Jerusalem's destruction during the 70-year exile (Psalm 137:1-6). Their mourning was turning to joy as restoration began (Nehemiah 8:9-12). Greater fulfillment came at Pentecost when Jerusalem became the birthplace of the church (Acts 2). The pattern continues: the church experiences foretastes of ultimate joy when the gospel advances and the kingdom grows. Complete fulfillment comes at Christ's return when the New Jerusalem

descends and God dwells with His people forever (Revelation 21:2-4). Then mourning becomes perpetual rejoicing.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 – God is love

Study Questions

1. How should love for Christ's church motivate corporate rejoicing over God's work?
2. What relationship exists between mourning over sin and capacity for rejoicing in redemption?
3. In what ways can we practice shared celebration of God's redemptive work in our communities?

Interlinear Text

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 26:8 (Love): LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

Psalms 137:6 (References Jerusalem): If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

Deuteronomy 32:43 (Parallel theme): Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.

Isaiah 65:18 (References Jerusalem): But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

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