

"Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:" 1Peter 1:8

Did you ever ponder why God is so dear to you? Why do you love Him? Why do you believe? What has compelled you that the Word of God is Truth? The essence is; your faith is the proof that God is. *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the*



evidence of things not seen. Your faith is, *"not of yourself it is the gift of God."* If you have it, God gave it to you, therefore, He Is. Your faith proves God's existence, but why do you love Him? It is one thing to believe in a person's existence, it's quite another to love them. Do we love Him, or do we just love His blessings? Is God an addition to our life, or IS He our Life? Does the thought of Jesus in all His beauty and glory cause your heart to quicken? Does the thought of His touch send you into a rapture of meditation? Does the *"still small Voice"* bring a tear to your eye? Are you straining to catch the faintest whisper, or do you let the cacophony of the daily grind distract you? It's been said that, *"You can be so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good."* This is a lie of Satan! The more Heavenly minded we are the better we become on earth. The closer I walk with the Saviour the more beneficial I become to my family, friends, and acquaintances. The more I meditate on God's Word, the sweeter my disposition becomes to others. There is no *"down side"* to being *"Heavenly minded."* Some, prate about proclaiming their faith with a proud obnoxious tone, ready to argue at the drop of a hat over the meaning of some passage of scripture. A walk with the Master will humble you. You will not need to proclaim your faith; it will be evident in your life. This does not preclude the proclamation of the Gospel. Your life should proclaim your faith, and your lips should proclaim the Blessed Redeemer.

Joy unspeakable and hope secure,
Two things that compel us to endure,
A walk with God will our faith refine,
And fill our lives with His Joy Divine! ~CGP

Our joy depends on our hope in God's promises. Our hope depends on our faith. Our faith depends on our time spent meditating on and obeying God's Word. We rejoice over what is coming, not what is happening now.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven..." Luke 6:22-23