**REJOICE – God’s covenant with Laughter (Isaac)**

**Notes**

**Rejoice is a Command**

Luke 1:28-Luke 1:29 NKJV  
And having come in, the angel said to her, “**Rejoice**, **highly favored one**, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!” But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered **what manner of greeting this was**.

Matt 28:9-Matt 28:10 NKJV  
And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, “**Rejoice**!” So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, “**Do not be afraid**. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

**The Name Revealed - JESUS**

Luke 1:30-Luke 1:34 NKJV  
Then the angel said to her, “**Do not be afraid**, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call **His name Jesus**. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Then Mary said to the angel, “**How can this be**, since **I do not know a man?”**

**Wisdom Shall see your Name “HaShem”**

Mic 6:8-Mic 6:9 NKJV  
He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? The Lord’s voice cries to the city— **Wisdom shall see Your name**

**Baby leaped for JOY**

Luke 1:44-Luke 1:45 NKJV  
For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, **the babe leaped in my womb for joy**. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”

**The past tense Song of Mary**

**46**And Mary said:

“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**47**And my spirit **has rejoiced** in God my Savior.  
**48**For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant;  
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.  
**49**For He who is mighty has done great things for me,  
And holy *is* His name.  
**50**And His mercy *is* on those who fear Him  
From generation to generation.  
**51**He has shown strength with His arm;  
He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
**52**He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones,  
And exalted *the* lowly.  
**53**He has filled *the* hungry with good things,  
And *the* rich He has sent away empty.  
**54**He has helped His servant Israel,  
In remembrance of *His* mercy,  
**55**As He spoke to our fathers,  
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”

**The Year of Great Mercy “Gadol Hased”**

Luke 1:57-Luke 1:58 NKJV  
Now Elizabeth’s full time came for her to be delivered, and she brought forth a son. **When her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy to her, they rejoiced with her**.

1 Kings 3:6

And Solomon said: “You have shown **great mercy** to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

2 Chronicles 1:8

And Solomon said to God: “You have shown **great mercy** to David my father, and have made me king in his place.

Nehemiah 9:31

Nevertheless in Your **great mercy** You did not utterly consume them nor forsake them; For You are God, gracious and merciful.

Luke 1:58

When her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown **great mercy** to her, they rejoiced with her.

**The Place of His Dwelling – The Place of Joy / Oil – The Gate of Heaven – The Place of the Ladder**

Gen 28

**10**Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. **11**So **he came to a certain place** and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the **stones** of that place and put it at his head, and he **lay down in that place** to sleep. **12**Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder *was* set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

**13**And behold, **the Lord stood above it** and said: “I *am* the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. **14**Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. **15**Behold, I *am* with you and will keep[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%2028&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-789c)] you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you.”

**16**Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely **the Lord is in this place**, and I did not know *it.*” **17**And he was afraid and said, “**How awesome *is* this place**! This *is* none other than the **house of God**, and this *is* the **gate of heaven**!”

**18**Then Jacob rose early in the morning, and took **the stone** that he had put at his head, set it up as a pillar, and **poured oi**l on top of it. **19**And he called the name of that place **Bethel**; but the name of that city had been Luz previously. **20**Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, **21**so that I come back to my father’s house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God. **22**And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

Gen 12:7-Gen 12:9 NKJV  
**Then the Lord appeared to Abram** and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; **there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord**. So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

Gen 13:2-Gen 13:4 NKJV  
Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. And he went on his journey from the South as far as Bethel, **to the place where his tent had been at the beginning**, between Bethel and Ai, **to the place of the altar** which he had made there at first. **And there Abram called on the name of the Lord.**

**He is the Reward – the Reason for your Joy !**

Gen 15:1 NKJV  
After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram**. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward**.”

**2But Abram said**, “Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house *is* Eliezer of Damascus?” **3**Then Abram said, “Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!”

**4**And behold, the word of the Lord *came* to him, saying, “This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.” **5**Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”

**6**And he believed in the Lord, and **He accounted it to him** for righteousness.

**Faith is real accounting and real currency – The real Deal !**

**The Covenant & The Covenant Sign - Separated in the Flesh**

**Gen 17**

**17**When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I *am* Almighty God; walk before Me and be **blameless**. **2**And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will **multiply you exceedingly**.” **3**Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: **4**“As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. **5**No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for **I have made you** a father of many nations. **6**I will **make you exceedingly fruitful**; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. **7**And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an **everlasting covenant**, **to be God to you and your descendants** after you. **8**Also **I give to you** and your descendants after you the land inwhich you are a stranger, **all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession**; and **I will be their God.”**

**9**And God said to Abraham: “As for you, **you shall keep My covenant**, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. **10**This *is* My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: **Every male child among you shall be circumcised**; **11**and you shall be **circumcised in the flesh** of your foreskins, and it shall be a **sign of the covenant between Me and you**. **12**He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant. **13**He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. **14**And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.”

**15**Then God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah *shall be* her name. **16**And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be *a mother* *of* nations; kings of peoples shall be from her.”

**ROFL – The first Rolling the Floor Laughing**

**17**Then Abraham **fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart**, “Shall *a child* be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear *a child?*” **18**And Abraham said to God, “**Oh, that Ishmael might live** before You!”

**God’s covenant with Laughter**

Transliteration: Yitschaq  
Phonetic Spelling: (yits-khawk')  
Definition: "he laughs",

**19**Then God said: “**No**, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name **Isaac**; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with his descendants after him. **20**And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. **21But My covenant I will establish with Isaac**, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.” **22**Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

**No waiting – The very same Day**

**23**So Abraham took Ishmael his son, all who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham’s house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskins **that very same day**, as God had said to him. **24**Abraham *was* ninety-nine years old when he was **circumcised in the flesh** of his foreskin. **25**And Ishmael his son *was* thirteen years old when he was **circumcised in the flesh** of his foreskin. **26**That very same day Abraham was circumcised, and his son Ishmael; **27**and all the men of his house, born in the house or bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

**Sarah Laughed**

**9**Then they said to him, “Where *is* Sarah your wife?”

So he said, “Here, in the tent.”

**10**And He said, “I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.”

(Sarah was listening in the tent door which *was* behind him) **11**Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; *and* Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. **12Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying**, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?”

**13**And the Lord said to Abraham, “**Why did Sarah laugh**, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear *a child,* since I am old?’ **14Is anything too hard for the Lord**? **At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.**”

**15**But Sarah denied *it,* saying, “I did not **laugh**,” for she was afraid.

And He said, “**No, but you did laugh**!”

**Laughter birthed Laughter**

Gen 21:5-Gen 21:7 NKJV  
Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. And Sarah said, “**God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me**.” She also said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age.”

**Joy - The Oil that you are anointed with**

Ps 45:6-Ps 45:7 NKJV  
Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, **Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.**

Heb 1:8-Heb 1:9 NKJV  
**But to the Son He says**: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; **Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness** more than Your companions.”

**Joy – Your Oil for the Midnight hour**

Ps 23:4-Ps 23:5 NKJV  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; **You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over**.

Matt 25:6-Matt 25:9 NKJV  
“And **at midnight a cry was heard**: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘**Give us some of your oil**, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and **buy for yourselves**.’

Acts 16:25-Acts 16:26 NKJV  
**But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God**, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately **all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed**.