



SERIES: APRIL – YES, YOU CAN! OVERCOMING YOUR STRUGGLES

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Scripture:

TITLE: Unending Joy

Some of you have asked about the pictures in my office. Who is this man behind me? Who is he holding? Why is he so happy? Well, this is a picture of Simeon holding baby Jesus. Why is he so happy? Because His joy was derived from the object of His attention.

Many of us today are struggling with finding joy in the journey of life. We have more resources than any other people in history, but we feel empty. We have more opportunities to connect with others, but we feel more alone. We have access to more information than ever, but we can't seem to find the source of unending joy.

Well, if you're looking for joy, it is right within our reach. Don't believe me? Let's listen to Dr. Luke in Luke 2:25-32 (NLT).

At that time, there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

This is why I keep this picture up in my office. It's to remind me no matter what problem I'm facing or how long the season of the trial is, we have seen salvation. We have experienced salvation. The object of my attention must continually be on Jesus. Jesus is the source of unending joy.

Justin Martyr said, "You can kill us, but you cannot harm us." In other words, friend, whatever situation you are facing, in the end, Christ wins. In the end, it is the eternal weight of glory that awaits you. And though the pain is real today, eternity with Christ and the hope He provides is far greater.

Jesus' arms are open to give you rest. He said so in Matthew 11:28. If you want unending joy, then turn to Jesus, embrace Him, and never let go.