



IN BETWEEN



CELEBRATE HIS COMING. ANTICIPATE HIS RETURN.



# Joy and Happiness

From the author of  
*Help My Unbelief*

BARNABAS PIPER

HOPING  
FOR  
HAPPINESS

*Turning Life's Most Elusive Feeling  
into Lasting Reality*

"I can give no higher recommendation than this book—I want to give  
this one to everyone I know. Ten stars." —ANN VOSKAMP, *New York Times*  
bestselling author of *One Thousand Gifts* and *The Greatest Gift*

# HAPPINESS



RANDY  
ALCORN

“Even Christians find it hard to escape the tendency to turn from the light and to be attracted to the darkness. It’s partly because there is often more darkness around than light. That simply demands even greater effort to think and talk about faithful marriages, godly young people, generous philanthropists, and honest

David Murray – “The Happy  
politicians.”  
Christian

“I’ll be happy/joyful when \_\_\_\_\_.”

**True joy is realized when we recognize  
and embrace the Incarnate King.**

“And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

**Luke 2:8-10**

“Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against  
whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose  
spirit there is no deceit. Many are the sorrows of  
the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one  
who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and  
rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all  
you upright in heart!”

Psalm 32:1-2, 10-11

**True joy is made complete by experiencing  
fellowship with one another through  
fellowship  
with the Father and Son.**



That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

“Joy is delight in God and his salvation for the sheer beauty and worth of who He is. Its opposite is hopelessness/despair, its counterfeit is elation that comes with blessings not the Blessor! Mood swings based on circumstances.”

Tim Keller

“God’s love is not to be viewed from afar, but to be experienced deeply in an up-close relationship. He desires

for all of His children to move from merely knowing that He loves them to experiencing it firsthand. He

wants you to feel the joy of being loved—to receive it personally and powerfully in a way that

Ben Desalvo — “Return to Joy”  
will change your life forever.

**True joy is made full by abiding in Christ.**

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

**John 15:9-11**

“Though you have not seen him, you love him.  
Though you do not now see him, you believe in him  
and rejoice with joy that  
is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the  
outcome  
of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

1 Peter 1:8,9

“God is the highest good of the reasonable creature. The enjoyment of him is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied. To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here. Better than fathers and mothers, husbands, wives, or children, or the company of any, or all earthly friends.

These are but shadows; but the enjoyment of God is the substance. These are but scattered beams; but God is the sun. These are but streams; but God is the fountain. These are but drops, but God is the ocean.”

Jonathan Edwards

1. Distinguish between temporary and circumstantial comfort or satisfaction and real, lasting joy.
2. Put yourself in the path of God's grace.
3. Engage yourself in Jesus's mission in the world.

Léonce Crump

“Most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Heedless of danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy...”

Dionysius



# *“Eucatastrophe”*

- a catastrophe that turns to good in the end.

**Christ Incarnate, the life, death and resurrection of Christ is THE eucatastrophe of human history!**

“So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

John 16:22