

In the New Testament epistles, “joy” or “rejoice” are mentioned some 50 times. What is surprising is that Jesus, in John’s Gospel, only broaches the subject of joy some 10 times, only a half dozen of which are related to personal joy. It is significant that Jesus raised the subject of joy with His disciples in the Upper Room on the night of His betrayal and arrest. (John 13-17) Why did Jesus focus on joy during His last night with His disciples? Because He knew what was coming. He knew that the tribulation that lay ahead for Him would tempt the disciples to lose their hope, to lose their joy. Before leaving the Upper Room, He said to them: “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33) Because Jesus would overcome the world, the disciples could keep their joy.

Don’t let this world steal your joy. Jesus has overcome the world; in Him, your joy is made full.

John 15:11 “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”