



*Dear Friends,*

*Christmas 2022*

The world wants us to search for happiness. However, happiness is a fleeting emotion, based on my present circumstances. Happiness comes from the English word hap and means: 'what's happening!' You might say: did you know we bought a new car for Christmas; or Sally is expecting her first child next summer. When we look to our present circumstances to determine happiness we struggle on a roller-coaster ride of emotion. Things are going good, I'm happy. Things are going badly, I'm unhappy. Circumstances affect the outer man!

God desires for us to be focused on the inner man. This is where I can remain calm through the circumstances of life because this is where God dwells within me. God never changes, and His Spirit bears witness with my spirit that we are one in Christ, we share the same heartbeat. **God is not stressed by time, performance, or by results. He is well acquainted with the truth that our victory has already been won!** "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14: 27

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. **I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.**" John 15:9-11

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come...*

*Let every heart prepare...and heaven and nature sing...*

*Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns... repeat the sounding joy...*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow... He comes to make His blessings flow*

*He rules the world...with truth and grace,*

*and makes the nations prove... the glories of His righteousness,  
and wonders of His love.*

*May you have a Blessed and Joy filled Christmas!*

*Richard and Debi*