## **The Joy That Awaits Us!**

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

**Hebrews 12:1-2** 

"By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward." Hebrews 11:24-26

### **Our Joy May Be Brought Low**

- We have not come to terms with ourselves
- We have not learned to live with people
  - Be patient, tolerant and develop an understanding heart
- We must leave peculiarities of people alone



- Trying to reform others to fit into our opinion

 We have not learned that we have a life to share with others

#### The Joy of Living Within God's Law

- Being resolved to do God's prescribed law
- Be determined to follow His teaching
  - Love your enemy
    Love your neighbors
    Love the brethren



#### **Five Joyous Testimonies**

- Moses looked to the future rewards – Hebrews 11:24-26
- A doorkeeper in the house of God
   Psalms 84:9-11
- The righteous shall flourish
   Psalms 92:12-14
- Delighting in the law of the Lord
   Psalms 1:1-6

#### **Five Joyous Testimonies**

- Paul suffered the loss of all things in order to win Christ
  - Philippians 3:8
    - Won all by serving God



- Waiting for the eternal joy of victory!
- -2 Timothy 4:6-8

# Paul left us an example in order to be victorious in Christ!

#### Conclusion

The Christian life is not burdensome

The burden is trying to carry the cross of  $\swarrow$  Christ and the weight of the world also

- The joys are set before us:
  - Forgiveness of sins!
  - Deliverance from bondage!
  - An eternal home with God!

