



Psalm 97:12

”Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holy name.”
(NKJV)

“May all who are godly be happy in the Lord and praise his holy name!” (NLT)

“Rejoice in the Lord, you [consistently] righteous—upright and in right standing with God – and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.” (AMP)

Rejoice:

Samach-probably to brighten up, i.e. make blithe or gleesome

Righteous:

Tsaddiyq-just

Thanks:

Yadah-to use (i.e. hold out) the hand; physically, to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands); intensively, to bemoan (by wringing the hands)

Remembrance:

Zeker-a memento, recollection (rarely if ever); by implication, commemoration

Holy name (holiness in KJ):

Qodesh-a sacred place or thing; rarely abstract, sanctity

This psalm is a call for all those who are in right standing with God to be happy or gleesome. Gleesome means gleeful or full of glee. Glee means merriment or joy. Merriment means gay conviviality; hilarity. Conviviality means fond of feasting, drinking and good company; sociable, jovial. (The American Heritage Dictionary) These definitions give us good understanding of what the psalmist meant in this passage when he said rejoice in the Lord.

As we rejoice we are to lift our hands in worship and reverence as we recognize the importance of and recollect God’s holiness.

Scripture references:

Psalm 30:4

Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holy name.

Psalm 106:47

Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the Gentiles, to give thanks to your holy name, to triumph in your praise.

Psalm 140:13

Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall dwell in your presence.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

NKJV

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