

Elder Bobby Willis



Romans 12:15, **“Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”**

What comes to your mind when you see the word **“rejoice”**? As a christian, your mind should be centered on rejoicing in the blessings and promises of God. However, this is not true for everyone in the world around us. Many think of *“going out on the town for a high old time”* when they see the word **“rejoice”**. The biblical usage for disciples of Christ is far removed from the sinful, fleshly usage of those whose minds are centered on satisfying the sins of the flesh. When Paul used it in Romans 12:15, he was referring to God fearing followers of Christ rejoicing when others (specially the establishment of new churches) heard the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ and became believers. It was a time to rejoice when those who had embraced the teachings of the old law were converted to the truth concerning Jesus being the Son of God and being the Messiah (saviour). In addition, there was much rejoicing when those who had been regarded as **“unclean”** were found to be **“clean”** when Jesus announced their inclusion in the preaching and receiving of the gospel. They now had much to rejoice about. To **“weep with them that weep”** is a profound statement concerning compassion, caring, and kindness on the part of a child of God who professes to be a follower of Christ. Jesus proclaimed **“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted”** in Matthew 5:4. To weep with those who are weeping doesn’t mean just to stand near by and join them in crying. It is far more reaching than that. It embraces the thought of sharing with them comforting words of God’s mercy and grace so they may receive strength and encouragement. Then the weeping becomes more than just crying, it is a heart felt compassion which is a godly attribute we all are to possess. The Lord said **“for they shall be comforted”**. What better news can you share as you **“weep with them that weep”**. May God bless us to learn “deeper meanings” found in God’s word. **“And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people”** (Romans 15:10). Think About It!

