





God says

choose

Nehemiah 8:9-10

joy!

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## Nehemiah 8:9-10

- **9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.**

## Nehemiah 8:9-10

- **<sup>10</sup> Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."**



- **Don't Sorrow v.9d**
- **Don't Starve v.10b**
- **Don't Sap v.10e**

**Thesis:** Christians should depend on the joy of the Lord for their strength.

God says, "Choose Joy!"

❖ **Don't Sorrow v.9d** ... "This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." ...

**<sup>20</sup> Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped.**

**2 Samuel 12:20**

God says, "Choose Joy!"

❖ **Don't Starve v.10b** <sup>10</sup> Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared..."

<sup>20</sup> Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

**2 Samuel 12:20**

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❖ **Don't Sap v.10e** ...Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

**<sup>22</sup> He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.'** **<sup>23</sup> But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."**

**2 Samuel 12:22-23**

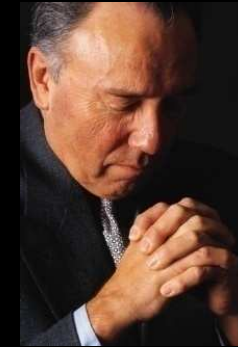
God says, "Choose Joy!"

Conclusion:



- **Thesis:** Christians should depend on the joy of the Lord for their strength.

# God says, "Choose Joy!"



- Decisions to make today!
- **Accept Jesus Christ as you Lord and Saviour**
- **Be baptized**
- **Join Bethlehem Baptist Church**
- **Ask for prayer**
- **Testify**
- **Ministry or Mission**



Bethlehem

TO KNOW  
CHRIST AND TO  
MAKE HIM KNOWN

2012