

JOY INEXTINGUISHABLE – II CORINTHIANS 6:1

Important Questions:

- ARE WE REALLY HAPPY IN THE LORD?
- IS THERE ANYTHING REALLY EXCITING ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST?
- DOES KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AFFECT OUR CONDUCT, OUR WAY OF LIFE?
- ARE WE REALLY DIFFERENT THAN UNBELIEVERS?
- DO YOU THINK THE WAY THE WORLD THINKS?
- ARE WE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST?
- ARE WE CITIZENS OF HEAVEN WORKING FOR A LITTLE WHILE IN A STRANGE LAND?

Richard Wurmbrand:

An evangelist who spent 14 years in Communist imprisonment, tortured in Rumania and had tremendous JOY in the Lord under terrible circumstances. After some difficulty in his early life with the communist authorities, and having been followed and closely watched by them, he married in 1936, then became a believer two years later, responding to the Gospel given him by a Rumanian carpenter. In the decade that followed he would be increasingly persecuted by the communists and become a vocal critic of communism and become heavily involved in underground churches. He was finally imprisoned on his way to church, and endured much torture. He was the founder of a Christian advocacy organization that helps persecuted Christians to this day, *Voice of the Martyrs*. He wrote 18 books, including *"Tortured for Christ"*. He was called "A Living Martyr" and "The Iron Curtain Paul".

We are to have tremendous Joy because we are Ambassadors for the Lord Jesus Christ!

JOY INEXTINGUISHABLE – II CORINTHIANS 6:1 (Continued)

The Apostle Paul:

Paul said his one job and one glory was to be an Ambassador for the Lord.

Roman provinces were divided into two types:

- I. One under direct control of the Senate, and
- II. The other under direct control of the Emperor.

The word ambassador in the Greek is *presbeuein* (πρεσβεύειν), and this word corresponds with the Latin “*Legatus*”.

Peaceful provinces with no troops were *senatorial* provinces. Dangerous provinces with troops were *imperial* provinces. The Emperor was the direct representative, and the man who administered the province on behalf of the Emperor was the *LEGATUS* or the *PRESBEUTES* – He had the direct commission from the Emperor.

Paul saw and considered himself with direct commission from Jesus Christ.

When the Roman Senate decided that a country should become a province the *LEGATI* or *PRESBEUTAE* determined the boundaries and arranged the terms. They were responsible for bringing many into the family of the Roman Empire.

Paul considered himself one bringing to men the conditions of God where many could be citizens of the empire of God.

Paul was an Ambassador.