

# In your presence is fullness of joy

Message 12: [Under Your Wings series](#)

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## Introduction

When the Lord first spoke to me the words that would become this season's message, for this particular message, he had me write just this: *"In your presence is fullness of joy."*

I have since looked up the words and realized they come from Psalm 16. A very powerful Psalm of David. Psalm 16 starts this way:

*"Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge."*

This indicates a time of trouble in which he was running from danger, so he hid and sought safety, with God as his refuge.

Psalm 16 then ends this way:

*"You have made known to me the path of life;  
in Your presence is fullness of joy;  
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."*

This indicates that, like David, during this time of seeking refuge, we can find fullness of joy—being in God's presence.

- A storm rages outside – You are safely hidden under God's shadow.
- An enemy is chasing you – You can run to hide in God's presence, which is his house or Holy Temple
- Your life is in danger and almost being destroyed – You can trust God to take off that so you can sit and rest in his presence, and there the Lord will show you the secret path where your life will be preserved and, in the process, receive joy and pleasure.

## About me and this series

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and my God has appointed me as his bond-servant to preach the gospel to everyone he has sent me to, to tell them that: *"Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is near (Matthew 3: 2)."*

The Lord chose me from among my brethren to receive his oracles, and this message is the final message of a 12-part series called "Under your Wings," which testifies about God's great deliverance.

## Anchor verse

As I shared with you in the introduction, when the Lord spoke to me about this message, he used Psalm 16 to help me prepare. Psalm 16 is a Psalm of David, and it ends this way:

***“You have made known to me the path of life;  
in Your presence is fullness of joy;  
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”***

Psalm 16: 11 (BSB).

One of the other things the Lord spoke to me as I prepared this message was he reminded me to love him, which is the 1<sup>st</sup> and MOST IMPORTANT commandment, and our Lord Jesus said it this way:

***This is the most important: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and  
with all your strength.’***

Mark 12: 29 – 30 (BSB).

### **Loving the Lord – an anchor for fullness of joy**

Why did the Lord speak to me to remind me and YOU to love him with all I have in connection with Psalm 16?

It’s because, in a season when we are running from our enemies and our lives are in danger, we often focus on the issue at hand and forget to focus on the Lord and love him.

Do you realize that the command to love him requires ALL of us? It means we cannot be half-hearted.

- Imagine you are worried about the bills – but the Lord says, *“In my presence is fullness of joy, so love me with all your heart.”*
- You are not sure where the next job will come from. Will you survive? – He says, *“In my presence is fullness of joy, so love me with all your soul.”*
- You are going crazy with anxiety, the relationship broken, the friends deserted you, the dreams, just barely surviving; even still, the Lord says, *“In my presence is fullness of joy, so love me with all your mind.”*
- Finally, you are tired. You have tried everything you can to knock on doors, seek opportunity, hustle, and make it work, and you are failing. God then comes along and says one final time, *“In my presence is fullness of joy, so love me with all your strength.”*

This command to love God with everything we are is the radical opposite of what we typically do, and Jesus knew this! No wonder he told us this:

***Who of you, by worrying, can add a single hour to his lifespan? So if you cannot do such a small thing, why do you worry about the rest?” Luke 12: 25 – 26 (BSB).***

Do you want to know how “funny God is”? He calls the act of adding a single hour to your life “a small thing.”

### **The search for eternal youth**

God calls adding a single hour a “small thing.” Meanwhile, in our world:

People are willing to pay anything for anti-aging products. For example, In 2023, this anti-aging market was valued at around \$47 billion and is expected to nearly double, reaching approximately \$80 billion by 2032, with an annual growth rate (CAGR) of about 6%.

So, this industry will grow by 100% in less than 10 years, but Jesus called this: “a small thing.”

While the bulk of us might spend, say, just a few hundred dollars to reverse aging, the millionaires of this world, who have accumulated the “good things of this world,” are not willing to go gently into that good night of the next world, so instead rage and rage against old age and because they wish to remain here forever they are willing to give all their wealth to scientific research so they can add perhaps 1 hour to their lives. For example:

- **Peter Thiel:** The billionaire co-founder of PayPal has invested millions into life extension research, notably through the Methuselah Foundation, which focuses on extending healthy human lifespans.
- **Jeff Bezos:** The Amazon founder has invested in Altos Labs, a biotechnology company dedicated to reversing aging through biological reprogramming.
- **Bryan Johnson:** The tech entrepreneur allocates approximately **\$2 million annually** to his anti-aging regimen, known as "Project Blueprint." This program involves a team of over 30 doctors and includes practices like plasma transfusions, strict dietary controls, and extensive medical monitoring. Johnson's goal is to achieve the biological age of an 18-year-old.

Do you have \$2m to allocate to anti-aging? Will you ever acquire \$2m in your entire life, let alone allocate a portion to this?

This tells us that God’s ways are not ours, and he sees this differently from us, so when he tells us not to worry, he asks us not to think like the world.

### **Fullness of joy – the remedy to this crazy world**

When we see the world around us going crazy and we have cause to worry, God is instead saying: *"No, do the opposite—obey my command to love me and come and be with me; when you do, you will have fullness of joy."*

This is the fullness of joy that sustains me every day and gives me a song to sing during this season in which we find rest under God’s wings, and Psalm 16 is not the only place that recommends finding joy in God’s presence during a time of refuge.

Like Psalm 16, Psalm 91, another scripture we have used for this season, starts with someone going to God to hide as a refuge from danger. It starts thus:

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.*

*I will say to the LORD, "You are my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

*Psalm 91: 1-2 (BSB).*

It then ends as follows:

*"Because he loves Me, I will deliver him;  
because he knows My name, I will protect him.*

*When he calls out to Me, I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble.  
I will deliver him and honor him.*

*With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him My salvation."*

Psalm 91: 14 – 16 (BSB).

The secret to finding rest and protection from external and internal enemies is to love God, enjoy his presence, and find fullness of joy. As you do, he delivers you from those things you worry about the most, and as you show him your love:

- He answers you; Delivers you; Honors you.
- He gives you a long life here on earth – OR a life of shalom (peace) and
- He shows you Jesus – his salvation because in Jesus is life everlasting.

May God help us to love him with all we have and enjoy his presence!

### **The Message of Jesus**

When the Lord Jesus, my commander, walked this earth, he was so passionate about the presence of God that after he angrily kicked out money changers and others from the temple, the scriptures in John 2 17 records that His disciples remembered that it was written: *"Zeal for your house will consume me."* This zeal his closest followers observed in him was a reference to another Psalm. Psalm 69: 9.

Are you, like Jesus, passionate about the Lord? Do you love him so much that you can say that "in your presence is fullness of joy"? Can you say this despite the worries of this world and the things this world focuses on? Despite the trouble you are in?

If you are hungry for the Lord to be your refuge and help you despite your troubles, you likely need to become a Christian, especially if you have never become one.

Do you believe? If so, and you have never trusted Jesus to be your Lord and Savior, please pray this prayer to become a Christian:

*"God of heaven, I confess that I am a sinner and have been one since birth, but I have heard that you can make me new, and you sent your son Jesus to die for me. He rose again, and it is he who can give me his Holy Spirit. Please forgive me and welcome me into your Kingdom; teach me how to follow you. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

Lots of love, your brother in the Lord and a bondservant of Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, come, Maranatha! Amen.