

The Lord Had Made Them Joyful, and Turned

by F.B. Meyer

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the power of God to influence hearts and the importance of joy and gratitude in the life of believers.

Scripture: Genesis 39:21, Exodus 3:21, Deuteronomy 16:15, Ezra 6:22, Nehemiah 8:10, Psalm 126:3, Proverbs 21:1, Daniel 1:9, John 15:11, Jude 1:24

Topics: "God's Sovereignty", "The Joy of the Lord"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes that God has the power to turn the hearts of men, as demonstrated in the lives of biblical figures like Joseph, Moses, and Daniel. He encourages believers to seek God's glory and will in their requests, trusting that God can influence even those in positions of power on their behalf. Meyer reminds us to embrace the joy that God provides, urging us not to fear expressing our happiness, as it is a reflection of God's blessings. He highlights that joy is a divine gift meant to be celebrated, and that we should rejoice in all the good things God gives us.

Transcript

The Lord had made them joyful, and turned

the heart of the King unto them. Ezra vi. 22.

YES, the hearts of men are in the hands of God, and He can turn them whither He will. There are many instances of this in Scripture. God gave Joseph favour with Pharaoh; Moses with the Princess; and Daniel with the King of Babylon. If certain matters can only be settled by reference to great men, kings or men of affairs, make the application; and then betake yourself to prayer, believing that as He inclined the heart of Darius, in the instance before us, so He can do as He will among the armies of heaven, and the inhabitants of earth.

That unkind overseer, that vexatious member of your home; that great man whose help you so greatly need; these are accessible to God's Spirit, if only you are intent on seeking his glory, and doing his will. But you must be able to show, as these Jews could, that your cause is identical with the cause of God, before you can claim, with unwavering faith, his interference on your behalf.

Then when the answer comes, let us thank Him, separating ourselves still further from the filthiness around us, so as to keep the feast with joy. Do not be afraid of joy; when God makes you joyful, do not

think it necessary to restrain your songs or smiles, for fear that an equivalent of sorrow will presently be meted out as a make‑weight. Our blessed Lord was desirous that his joy might be in his Disciples; it was for the joy that was set before Him that He endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God; it is with exceeding joy that He will present us faultless before the presence of his glory. "Thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

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