

THE SHORT LIST
PART 2: The Choice to Rejoice

Text: (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJ)

POWER OF REJOICING

A. Rejoicing has benefits

1. Keeps God in our consciousness
2. Considered a good thing - no way to go wrong rejoicing in God
3. Helps us keep the negative thoughts from lodging in our hearts
4. Rejoicing strengthens your faith **(Romans 4:19-20 NKJ)**

B. Rejoicing is a choice

1. No one born a natural rejoicer - learned behavior
2. Rejoicing is digging deep **(Hebrews 13:15 NKJ)**

THE CHOICE TO REJOICE BEFORE YOU SEE

A. A word a promise (2 Chronicles 20:12-17 NKJ)

1. The Holy Spirit moved on one of the priests / prophets
2. Gave direction and encouragement
3. They had a word and a promise and they still had a problem

B. Now they had a choice

1. They could wait and see if this word was accurate
2. Choose to believe the word
3. Jehoshaphat and the people made the right call **(2 Chronicles 20:18-19 NKJ)**

C. Acting on what God had promised (2 Chronicles 20:20-22 NKJ)

1. Good things happen for those who believe
2. Their rejoicing was a function of believing before they see
3. As they rejoiced God worked **(Psalms 22:3 NKJ)**
4. We rejoice before we see or feel **(1 Peter 1:8 NKJ)**