

# “Leap for joy”

***“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy for indeed your reward is great in heaven. For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.” Luke 6:23***

Only one place in the New Testament does that phrase appear. “Leap for joy” sounds like a good Holy Ghost service where the saints are rejoicing and the choir is singing.

But the truth is the blessing is attached to hate. *“Blessed are you when men hate you and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man’s sake.”*

The leaping for joy is the degree to which we are to be happy. Not just a smile, nor just a shout, but literally leaping up and down because of the reward. It’s the reward we are looking to. This is what made Antipas, when he was boiled in water, praise the Lord that he was able to give his life for the Gospel. It was not the boiling in a gruesome death, but the reward that resulted at the end of it, that caused such joy!

We in America seldom see physical persecution but spiritual persecution abounds. People with

razor sharp tongues, will call you a fake and a fanatic. They will call good evil and evil good. People will exclude you, by removing themselves from you and then bite and devour with judgment and criticism. This too, is a form of persecution that hinges on your reaction.

Your response is what God is looking for! He allowed it to see what you are made of. What he wants from you is rejoicing. How can you have any real reward in heaven if you are never persecuted? This road is paved with the testimony of millions of saints who all the way back to the first century suffered the same treatment! Now they are enjoying the rewards for their sufferings, and they will be for eternity! Is it worth it? Is it attainable?

That’s for you to answer, but if you reach the right conclusion, leaping for joy will be a part of your life!

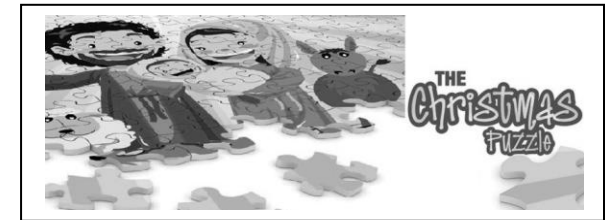
Pastor Chambers

**Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**  
is the last Sunday to receive  
credit for your 2010 giving!

## Schedule of Events

Sunday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>  
10:30am  
Teen Challenge Choir

6:00pm  
Children’s Christmas Program



Saturday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>  
No Prayer Service

Church Office Closed  
Mon., Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> thru Fri., Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>

Thursday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>  
No Service

Sat., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>  
No Prayer Service

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> thru Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Prayer Revival