



*The Joy  
of my  
Heart*

MEDITATING DAILY  
*on* GOD'S WORD

ANNE GRAHAM LOTZ

*The Joy of My Heart*

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## The God of Eternity's Beginning

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

GENESIS 1:1 NKJV

**T**he glorious dawn of *God's Story* begins with the stunning yet profoundly simple statement that in the beginning He created everything (Genesis 1:1)—which means that in the beginning, He was already there. He is eternal.

It is impossible to comprehend eternity. It's been defined as three stages of time: everything before Creation, everything that has taken place or will take place from Creation until the end of the world, and everything that will take place after the end of the world. It stretches back further than the human mind can reach—whether through anthropology, or geology, or archaeology. It stretches ahead further than the human mind can imagine—whether through science fiction or scientific observation or telescopes.

God as Creator is eternal and therefore not bound by time. That means He is in your future, and He is in your past, and He surrounds you at present! Would you worship Him now for His eternity?

*God's Story*





## Risk-Taking Obedience

*“We ought to obey God rather than men.”*

ACTS 5:29 NKJV

**A**t the wedding in Cana, Jesus issued a command to the servants that seemed to have nothing to do with the shortage of wine: “Fill the jars with water.” The servants must have stolen furtive looks at each other, but without question, resistance, or argument, “they filled them to the brim” (John 2:7).

Why did the servants obey? What made them risk their reputations and their jobs and carry out His instructions? Surely it wasn’t just because Mary told them to do whatever He said. It must have been something about Jesus Himself that thrust them out on the limb of risk-taking obedience.

Was it His clear, firm gaze of authority?

Was it the quiet confidence of His demeanor?

Was it the unwavering strength of His tone of voice?

Whatever the reason, they obeyed and experienced the thrill of seeing the water they poured into the jars pour out as wine!

*Just Give Me Jesus*

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## Just Turn on the Light!

*You were once darkness, but now you are light  
in the Lord. Walk as children of light.*

EPHESIANS 5:8 NKJV

I live in the southern part of the United States. During the warmer months in particular, if I leave the porch light on at night, all sorts of moths and insects swarm to it. The variety can be fascinating. Everything from large Luna moths to beetles to strange green crawly things beat and flutter their way to the light. I have never stood at the door and called these insects to come or set out bait for them. All I have to do is to turn on the light and they come of their own volition—by the hundreds. Moths, in the midst of the darkness, are not attracted to more darkness. They are attracted to the light.

People today, living in the midst of darkness, are not attracted to more darkness; they are attracted to the Light. So let your Light shine! Lift it high! You don't have to have a clever presentation to your witness or learn evangelistic formulas or take a course on communicating to postmodern man. For heaven's sake, *just turn on the Light!*

*Just Give Me Jesus*





# The Joy of Working Together

*Whatever you do in word or deed, do all  
in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

COLOSSIANS 3:17 NKJV

**W**hat task has God assigned you? Has He assigned you to  
establish a home,  
strengthen a marriage,  
serve a church,  
teach in a classroom,  
or comfort in a sick room?

Check your attitude toward the assignment. Do you grumble and complain about it? Do you neglect and ignore it? Do you resent and reject it? Or do you enjoy fulfilling it as your service unto the Lord? God wants you and me to enjoy our service to Him, whatever it may be. And He also wants us to discuss each detail with Him as we do the work. One of His pleasures, as well as ours, is the joy of working together as we complete the task. Often, the more difficult the task, the greater the joy because it enables us to see the power of God and just what He can do in and through and for us.

*God's Story*

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# The Mystery of God

*God saw everything that He had made,  
and indeed it was very good.*

GENESIS 1:31 NKJV

Someone has said that if God were small enough for us to understand, He would not be big enough to save us. Yet the Bible is God's revelation of Himself to us. And the revelation is true.

At the birth of time and space and human history, against the inky blackness of the universe and the shadowy mysteriousness of eternity, the character of God shone forth with the radiant beauty of a full moon in a cloudless night sky. Even the casual reader of the creation account in Genesis can easily identify

His unequalled power as He called into existence that  
which had no existence,

His unlimited sovereignty as He took counsel with  
Himself and decided to create man in His own  
image,

and His unsearchable goodness that was revealed when  
He created Adam, the first man.

In what way have you glimpsed the character of God today?  
Would you praise Him for it?

*Why?*



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