

EULOGY FOR JOSEPHINE GEORGE - 'HE SHALL ADD'

Josephine, affectionately called Granny, was the forerunner of the spontaneity of the worship at the church she attended. Before it became a norm to stand at will to begin praising the Lord, Josephine would stand.

HE SHALL ADD!

We're not talking about a flamboyant vocal personality, but rather one who was quiet and rather withdrawn. So for her to initiate a posture of worship with hands uplifted released a fresh liberty that is still enjoyed today by others.

HE SHALL ADD!

One desire some of us had for her is that she experience restoration of what had been lost over the years in the measure of true joy. In some ways that was witnessed with success in raising two Godly daughters while she was a widow and single mom. She had independence to live on her own and drive at her elderly age and the ability to continue teaching by her example past her professional career. Shortly before her death, she overcame fears concerning her health and travel, and flew for the first time to Florida for a memorable visit with her girls.

HE SHALL ADD!

But my first thought, when informed of her home going, was, "She's laughing now!" Oh yes, I saw her smile often and occasionally she released a raspy chuckle, but now that river of life is flowing freely from her. Isaiah 9:1-7, personally paraphrased, describes how I see her now. "Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for Josephine who was in distress. In the past the Lord humbled her, but now and in the future He will honor her. Josephine, who once walked in darkness, has seen a great light; on her a light has dawned in the shadow of death. The Lord has enlarged her and increased her joy; she is rejoicing before the Lord as people rejoice at harvest and when dividing the plunder. Her enemy has been defeated; the yoke that burdened her, the bar across her shoulders, and the rod of her oppressor have been shattered. For she is face to face with the Child born for her, the Son given to her. She sees the government on His shoulders. She is calling Him Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. She sees the increase of His government and peace will not end. She sees Him reigning on David's throne and over His Kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty has accomplished this." Jeremiah 33:11 says, "The sounds of joy and gladness from the bride, Josephine, is being heard, bringing thank offerings to the house of the Lord, saying, 'Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; His love endures forever. The Lord has restored!'" Psalm 30:1-5, 11-12 says, "Josephine exalts you, O Lord, for You lifted her out of depths and did not let her enemies gloat over her. O Lord, she called to You for help and You healed her. O Lord, You brought her up from the grave; You spared her from going down into the pit. She sings to You Lord, as Your saint; she praises Your holy name. For Your anger lasts only a moment, but Your favor has lasted her lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes to Josephine in the morning. You turned her mourning into dancing; You removed her sackcloth O Lord, she will give You thanks forever."

HE SHALL ADD!

The Lord was faithful in fulfilling the meaning of the name He gave Josephine - "He shall add; increasing faithfulness" - as Alpha and Omega, as El Shaddai, as Provider, as

the Sufficient One in weakness. Now He wishes to ADD the rich heritage of her life to ours - be a forerunner, take a stand, conquer fear - laugh!

I will ever be grateful that God added Josephine to me life!

With loving respect,

Gayle Chandler

This article may be copied verbatim with the following credit line:

Gayle Chandler is the publisher for Source of Joy Publishers and the author of *Affirming You: Discovering the Biblical Meaning of Your Name*. Learn more at www.sourceofjoy.com.