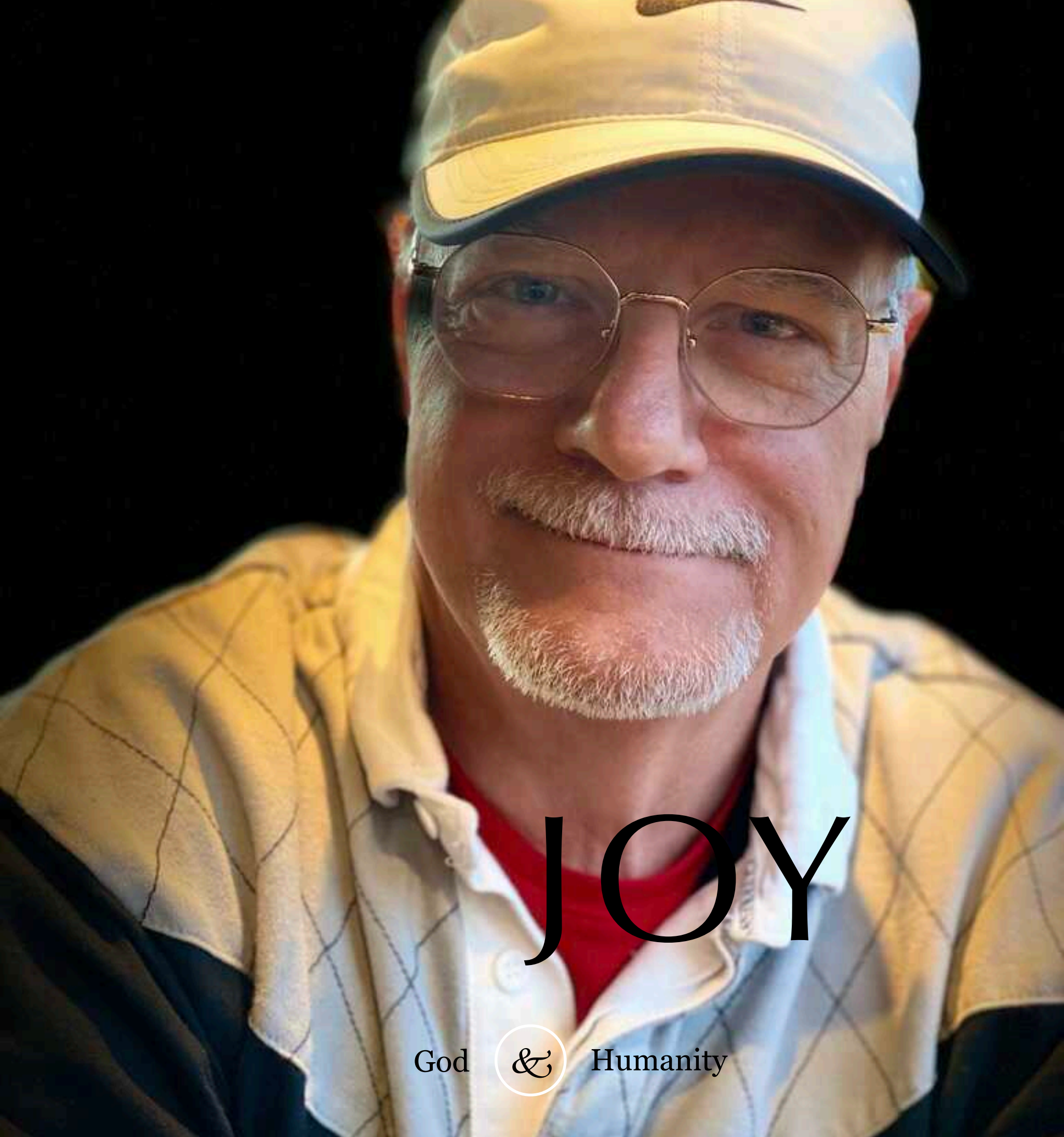




JOY

God & Humanity



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From the desk of your friend in Christ Jesus,

Dean Chicquette 04/19/2020



JOY

enjoying what is

Celebrate God with one-another.

*“These things I have spoken to you, that My **JOY** may be in you, and that your **JOY** may be made full. This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.” (John 15:11-12 NAS77 emphasis mine)*

WHEN WE LET LOOSE OF FEAR, *LOVE births JOY.*

The good news is that *you can love* one another. The bad news is this...you lose out on experiencing JOY when you choose not to love one-another.

In fact, you can become wildly abandoned to a lawless life when you allow Holy Spirit to express these things, for there is no law forbidding you to do these things.

LOVE - charity

JOY - charity shared

PEACE - joy expressed

PATIENCE - abiding peace

KINDNESS - repeated patience

GOODNESS - specific kindnesses

FAITHFULNESS - promise fulfilled

GENTLENESS - remembering self

SELF-CONTROL - waiting on God

See Galatians 5:22-23

All these are how we both sense and express Holy Spirit.

How many times have you heard someone declare that they prayed for patience and all hell broke loose? In fact, if there is any one prayer sure to be answered, it is this one. Why? because it is the easiest for God to demonstrate that you have no patience.

Unfortunately, people are so interested in gaining a godly



attribute which they can demonstrate at will and then bring it to God as some merit badge to get a pat on the head with a “Good job” added, that they never learn the lesson. What is that lesson?

Read on.

Only God is patient. You never will have patience. You were not created to develop it, house it, and then express it at will. God is PATIENT and through Holy Spirit, when needed, acts with patience. You are but the conduit.

So it is with **JOY**. You are never expected to foster and express **JOY** at will, but humble yourself to God the creator in the moment, and then He will express of one or more of these attributes as needed in the moment.



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Here it is appropriate to reread the prayer of Saint Francis.

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, **JOY**
O Divine Master, grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand
To be loved, as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life
Amen*

**When God makes you His JOY you will express JOY.
NO! You will express God!**