

A New Year, A New Beginning

As we enter into the new year there are many resolutions which are made and broken. In today's lesson I would like to take a few minutes to talk about a few things that we should really be thinking about in entering the new year.

First of all, what better time than the new year for having a new beginning to life. If you have never received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior then your life is meaningless. You have no hope. You are dead in trespasses and sins. You are a goat who Jesus will tell to depart from him. The good news is that God is the God of beginnings. He is the one who makes all things new. He is the one who will make you a new creation in Christ Jesus. Why not kneel down right now and ask Jesus to come into your heart, forgive you of your sins, and cleanse you from all unrighteousness, believing that it is done in the name of Jesus? The Bible says that whosoever believeth on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

There mere be other new beginnings that you need in life. Maybe you have been saved but have never really grown as a Christian. There's no better time than right now to begin to grow. The Scriptures compare our lives as Christians to that of newborn babes. We are to initially desire the sincere milk of the word. This is the basics of the Word of God. We aren't supposed to stay there, though. We're supposed to grow and begin to get into those more difficult Scriptures. Peter tells us that some of the Scriptures are hard to be understood, but that doesn't mean that we should stay away from them forever. You see, as we grow these Scriptures can be understood.

But how do we grow? This is a good question. First, make sure that you're in a good church where unadulterated gospel is preached. Now when I say make sure that you're in church I don't mean that you should just be present. I mean that you need to be an active part of the service. Find your role. The Scripture compares the church to a body, with every member making up a part and having a function. You need to find your function and carry it out to the very best of your ability.

Next, find yourself a prayer closet. It doesn't matter where it is. It doesn't matter what time of day. You just need to have a time that you're alone with God and are actively asking him to mold you into what he would have you to be and to show you what the Scriptures mean.

Next, you need to get into the Scriptures. Just take time to read. I don't recommend trying to read the Bible through. Rather, I recommend that you take the time to really focus on what the Scripture that you read means. It's more important that you actually study the Scriptures than just read them. Make sure that you have a good reference Bible and follow some of the references.

Finally, begin to tell others about what God has done in your life. Don't be afraid to talk to others. Don't be afraid to show forth Jesus Christ to the world.

Maybe there are other beginnings awaiting you in 2008. Maybe you're adding a new wife or a new child to your family. Maybe you're going to change jobs. Maybe you're putting some bad things behind you. Whatever the new beginning, remember to seek first the kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.

How is your 2008 going to be? Only God knows. I do know one thing, though. It will be better if you have some new beginnings.

Yours in Christ,

Bro. John Rich