Welcome January 1

Meet the New Year

Welcome to the New Year of our Lord. Let us all, whether old hands at Christianity or new babes in Christ start the New Year with a new beginning, a renewal in the Spirit of love toward one another.

The beautiful thing about our life is that we can always make a commitment, give up our old ways, there is only one New Years Day, only one yearly beginning but a new life can spring up within our heart and soul anytime of the year! Just so we don’t wait too long!

Jesus had morning devotions –Very early the next morning, long before daylight, Jesus got up and left the house. He went out of the town to a lonely place, where he prayed. Mark 1:35. We should start our days with prayer and devotions and also find a time to have family devotions. Those who pray together, stay together.

We have assurance as we gather, although a small group, the Lord will be with us – “…For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.” Matthew 18:20. We, whether in a small or large group or all alone but we must seek to find the Lord, He is not going to come after us!

A NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION: To find more time each day for the Lord!

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to set aside time to worship you daily, to have daily talks with you, to continue to learn and keep in touch with you.

The Bible January 2

The Inspired Word of God

The Bible was physically written by human people but the words were inspired by God –All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living. 2 Timothy 3:16.

Think of the Bible as God talking to you through the many writers. God making himself known to man, approach the Bible with reverence and belief.

Have you ever tried to find your way in the dark without a flashlight? Trying to grope our way through this world dark with sin without the use of God’s Word is just as hard. –Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105.

- 1 Peter 1:24c-25a. The grass withers, and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

His Word will last without end.

VERSE FOR TODAY: … but the word of the Lord remains forever. This word is the Good News that was proclaimed to you.” 1 Peter 1:25

PRAYER THOUGHT: Please guide me, O Lord, as I read your Holy Scriptures that I will understand the truths you have for me and be able to apply them to my everyday life.

Gospel January 3

The Good News

The Good News being, through Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection we have the hope of eternal life!

We must have the confidence in the Good News as Paul did in Romans 1:16 – I have complete confidence in the gospel; it is God's power to save all who believe, first the Jews and also the Gentiles. We should put all of our confidence in the gospel because there is only one true gospel –Actually, there is no “other gospel”, but I say this because there are some people who are upsetting you and trying to change the gospel of Christ. Galatians 1:7. In this day of numerous cults and religions we must hold fast to the Good News of Christ, the only one who can save us.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John recorded the gospel of Jesus Christ, the life and teachings of Christ.

VERSE FOR TODAY:

The right time has come,” he said, “and the Kingdom of God is near! Turn away from your sins and believe the Good News!”

Mark 1:15

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to

accept the true word of God and to live a

life pleasing to God.

Salvation January 4

Redemption for the Soul

Salvation is the ability to be saved eternally, having our soul saved. Salvation is for today, it is not something to be put off! Human nature is to put things off, but life is too short! – As for us, our life is like grass.

We grow and flourish like a wild flower;

then the wind blows on it, and it is gone —no one sees it again. Psalm 103:15-16.

There is only one place in which salvation can be found, in Jesus Christ our Lord! –“… Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.” Acts 4:12

The mission of Jesus here on earth was to be the Savior of the world, making salvation possible for everyone – For God has revealed his grace for the salvation of the whole human race. Titus 2:11.

Jesus is calling you; why not answer Him today by accepting His ways as your ways?

VERSE FOR TODAY: So get rid of every filthy habit and all wicked conduct. Submit to God and accept the word that he plants in your hearts, which is able to save you.

James 1:21

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, of your death, burial and resurrection making salvation possible to me. Help me not to put off such an important decision.

Salvation January 5

Steps

The “Steps to Salvation” are clear cut but yet overlap one another: In HEARING about God we become to BELIEVE and upon believing, we will want to REPENT of our sins and CONFESS the Name of Jesus before men and through obedience be BAPTIZED and LIVE a life acceptable to God.

There are many ways to hear the Word of God, through Sunday School, church and Bible studies. Television and radio are also excellent ways to hear the Word proclaimed.

Remember the Bible is God speaking to you so read and listen to the words! The words will tell you what God wants you to know! Hear with an open mind and heart to the Lord. He is calling you.

VERSE FOR TODAY: So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through preaching Christ.

Romans 10:17

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, please open up my heart and mind to be receptive to the truths you have for me.

Salvation – Eternity January 6

Where?

In this life there always seems to be two choices, either right or wrong but in the case of heaven or hell for eternity there is only one choice!

Heaven – “….He will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared.” Revelation 21:4.

In contrast:

Hell is described – and they will throw them into the fiery furnace, where they will cry and grind their teeth. Matthew 13:42.

We see the choice of either no more grief and pain or the crying and grinding of teeth- We can make the choice!

As the choice given to the Israelites, so the Lord gives us the choice – Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, between life and death. Choose life. Deuteronomy 30:15,19c.

Choose life, choose to love the Lord, your God and believe in Him with your whole being and do good.

Don’t fall into the trap of those who think because they don’t believe in God, or heaven or hell that none of this will affect them is a delusion – Every one of us, then, will have to give an account of ourselves to God. Romans 14:12.

VERSE FOR TODAY: He is our God; we

are the people he cares for, the flock for

which he provides. Listen today to what he says: Psalm 95:7.

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, what an easy choice to make today, but what a hard choice to live up to tomorrow, help me to live in your love and in obedience to you in order to have eternal life.

Salvation January 7

In Times Like These

We hear about nuclear weapons and war that would destroy this world, these things should concern us but not nearly as much as where our soul will spend eternity after such a total destruction.

We all know we will not live forever in this life form so however we go, whether natural death, an accident, nuclear holocaust or the Lord’s second coming we must face judgment and the verdict will be heaven or hell and we do have a choice of listening or not listening –And anyone who did not follow it or obey it received the punishment he deserved. How, then, shall we escape if we pay no attention to such a great salvation? And all who did not follow it or obey it received the punishment they deserved. Hebrews 2:3a, 2b. We must choose to listen, God will not force us to be His followers, and we must come to Him and ask Him into our hearts and change our lives to follow Him.

Jesus leads us to salvation, we must look to Jesus, believe in Him, keep the faith and no matter what happens we can be assured of eternity with Him – It was only right that God, who creates and preserves all things, should make Jesus perfect through suffering, in order to bring many children to share his glory. For Jesus is the one who leads them to salvation. Hebrews 2:10.

Look to Jesus!

VERSE FOR TODAY: The scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”  Romans 10:11.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you for your plan of salvation, that through you I can have blessed assurance that I will spend eternity with you. Help me to always make the right choices.

Salvation January 8

Believe

To have a belief you must know in whom or what your belief is in, one of the basic beliefs must be that there is a God. God by definition is Supreme Being.

-There is - One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:6.

God has three persons in one, there is the FATHER - … “Father, Lord of heaven and earth!” Matthew 11:25a. The SON – and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased — listen to him!” Matthew 17:5b. The HOLY GHOST –The Helper will come — the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God and who comes from the Father. John 15:26a.

The concept of three persons in one is sometimes hard to imagine. A good example is a married woman with children; she is a wife, mother and housekeeper, three distinct roles but one person. Same with God, Father the creator and sustainer of life, the Son that came to earth as a human being then returned to heaven to be at the right hand of God and Holy Spirit sent to believers after Jesus returned to heaven.

VERSE FOR TODAY: As they were starting out, Jehoshaphat addressed them with these words: “People of Judah and Jerusalem! Put your trust in the Lord your God, and you will stand firm. Believe what his prophets tell you, and you will succeed.”  2 Chronicles 20:20b, c.

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, help me to more fully understand the Trinity so I may believe in God more complete