

A New You In A New Year:

Text: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals,^[a] nor sodomites,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Intro: Time passes quickly as this is the last Sunday of 2012, and we are getting ready to start 2013.

- a. At the end of the year many “New Year Resolutions” are made.
- b. Common goals are losing weight, making more money etc.
- c. The most important resolution [Goal] that anyone can have is to be a dedicated [faithful] Christian.
- d. Today we will look at a few ways reach our goals and become a new you spiritually.

1. Giving More Time To God

- a. Ephesians 5:15-17

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

- b. Read and study your Bible daily. [2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:16-“If we don’t teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to.” Psalm 119:11]

II Timothy 2:15: *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

II Timothy 3:16: *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*

Psalm 119:11: **Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.**

- c. Avoid wasting your time in Satan's service because eternal consequences will result from the use made of our time! [Galatians 6:7-8]

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

2. Spend More Time In Prayer Daily.

- a. Luke 18:1; 1 Thess. 5:17

Luke 18:1: Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

1 Thessalonians 5:17: pray without ceasing

- b. Colossians 4:2

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving

3. Being More Thankful, And Not Complain

- a. Philippians 2:14-15

Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

- b. Matthew 5:16- How can we let our light shine if we have a complaining and grumbling attitude?

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven

- c. Colossians 3:17; 1 Thess.5:18

Colossians 3:17: And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

1 Thessalonians 5:18: in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you

4. Look For Every Opportunity To Serve And Do Good To Others.

a. Acts 10:38

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

b. Galatians 6:9-10; Ephesians 2:10

Galatians 6:9-10: And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Ephesians 2:10: For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

5. Make Every Effort To Win Others To Christ

a. A soul winner for Jesus will tell others about God's cure for sin. [Romans 1:14-16]

I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. ¹⁵ So, as much as is in me, *I am* ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,^[a] for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

b. Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16

Matthew 28:18-20: And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore^[a] and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen

Mark 16:15-16: And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Invitation: If you have never obeyed the Gospel of Christ won't you be baptized into Christ to have your sins forgiven by the blood of Jesus? [Galatians 3:26-27] You then will become a "new" person in Christ.[2 Corinthians 5:17] Then continue to be a "new you" be dedicating yourself to the Lord. [Revelation 2:10]

Galatians 3:26-27: **For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ**

II Corinthians 5:17: **Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new**

Revelation 2:10: **Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**