

New Year's Sermon

12/31/2017

⌚ Another year has come and gone, with each year seemingly moving faster than the last

- ❖ Job saw his life through his troubles

Job 7:3-4, 6-7

³ So I have been allotted months of futility, and wearisome nights have been appointed to me. ⁴ When I lie down, I say, ‘When shall I arise, And the night be ended?’ For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn.

⁶ “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and are spent without hope.

⁷ Oh, remember that my life is a breath! My eye will never again see good.

- ❖ But, a new year is here; time to make changes
- ❖ Each year is like a chapter of a book that we are writing

★ It is our fault if we do not like the book, because we are the authors

➤ We need to learn some life principles

■ We need to learn how short life is compared to eternity

Job 14:1-2 (NKJV)

“Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. ² He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.

James 4:14 (NKJV)

whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

■ We need to learn what is important and what is not important

Matthew 13:44-46 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, ⁴⁶ who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

■ We need to learn how good God is to us

Psalm 103:8-14 (NKJV)

■ We need to learn to forget the past and look to the future

Philippians 3:12–14 (NKJV)

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Luke 9:62 (NKJV)

But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

■ We need to learn how to use each day to its fullest

2 Timothy 4:6-7 (NKJV)

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (NKJV)

¹⁵ See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

circumspectly - diligently

redeeming - buy up for one's use; make use of your opportunity

Close

Romans 13:11–14 (NKJV)

¹¹ And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.