

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS NEW YEAR

Philippians 3:13-16

Introduction: We'd like to, but we know it's just not possible - to go back and relive some things from the past. Every year we make resolutions to do this or that differently than we did the past year and some of the resolutions we actually carry out but some we don't for whatever reason. One of the best persons for a Christian to get some good advice from is the apostle Paul.

I. SOME CONCLUSIONS DRAWN BY PAUL:

1. Nobody knows all they need to now about Jesus or the Christian life.
2. Forget about last year:
 - Memory can be good or it can be bad in some ways:
 - Failures, successes, hurts, joys, etc..
 - Events can paralyze with fear/guilt and can fill one with anger and impede with pride.
3. Get on with your life, the time you have left to live on this earth.
 - However do so with God's will for you as priority number ONE.

II. SOME ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM PAUL:

1. "Mature" Christians will do God's will FIRST!
2. Differences of opinions about Church matters will be cleared up by God.
3. Every Christian lives by the same rules.
4. Every Christian works toward the SAME end/goal.

CONCLUSION:

1. Sunday School and worship is a MUST for the Christian.
2. Don't let past events ruin this new year.
3. Life is short - find God's will for your life and DO IT!
4. Let the Church be ONE in ALL things.