

"SEVEN NEW THINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR"

2 Corinthians 5:17

I. A NEW FAITH:

1. A faith centered in Christ.

Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (NASB)

2. A faith that works for Christ

James 2:17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, [being] by itself. (NASB)

3. A faith to live for Christ

Hebrews 10:38 But My righteous one shall live by faith; And if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. (NASB)

II. A NEW POSITION:

1. A position on the Rock

Psalms 40:2 He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay; And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm. (NASB)

2. A position' of Acceptance

Ephesians 1:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. (NASB)

3. A position of no Condemnation

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (NASB)

III. A NEW ASSURANCE

1. An Assurance over doubt

John 10:28 and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand. (NASB)

2. An Assurance over Temptation

Revelation 3:10 'Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that [hour] which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth. (NASB)

3. An Assurance forever

Psalms 121:8 The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever. (NASB)

IV. A NEW SERVICE:

1. A cross-bearing

Luke 14:27 "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

2. A self denying life

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (NASB)

3. A Christ following life

Mark 8:34 And He summoned the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (NASB)

V. A NEW JOY:

1. Joy because of Deliverance

Colossians 1:13 For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, (NASB)

2. Joy because of Liberty

Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only [do] not [turn] your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (NASB)

VI. A NEW PRAYER LIFE:

1. Pray for our enemies

Matthew 5:44 "But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you

2. Pray for all in Authority

1 Timothy 2:1-2 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties [and] prayers, petitions [and] thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. (NASB)

3. A prayer that is steadfast

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing; (NASB)

VII. A NEW TESTIMONY:

1. A testimony of Praise

Psalms 119:171 Let my lips utter praise, For Thou dost teach me Thy statutes. (NASB)

2. A testimony as lights in the world

Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (NASB)

3. A testimony without sin.

Job 2:10 But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.