

Sunday, January 3, 2021.

Praying in 2021

Our Verse for the day: Psalms 90:12 (KJV) ¹² So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Our devotion today an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for January 3, 2021.

IT IS TIME TO PRAY. 2 Chronicles 7:1-3

As we look at these verses this morning, we need to think about this year. With excitement we begin the journey through 2021, but what will it bring? A task? A Mission? A battle? If we are willing to let God have his way in our life it will be all the above and more.

When Solomon prayed, the glory of the Lord filled the house.

I would hope that it would involve the worst fight you have ever been in. This fight is the fight with the devil. We will find that the harder we work for the Lord, the more the devil will work against us. If we are to win the battle, we must pray, trust, and obey.

This year let us unite in one common bond to help ourselves and others in the problems that we will face.

1. LET US PRAY FOR PROPER MOTIVATION: MATT. 18:19-20 ¹⁹Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Our motives are those desires of needs that drive us to action.

A. Some people are motivated by worldly needs. They will give their life to fulfill these needs. Work, Money, Homes, Social Standing

B. Some people are motivated by personal needs. Feelings, acceptance, Fitting into the crowd, etc.

C. Some are motivated by a desire to serve and love God. This is the supreme motive for serving. Will we be concerned about how we serve the Lord this year? Will we follow Him all the way?

We need to pray for ourselves and one another as we enter this year.

II. LET US PRAY FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE: ISAIAH 1:16-20

As we face the journey of the new year, we should recognize that there are some dangers involved in each journey. Whatever we undertake to do, we should do it with guidance from God. We should ask God to lead in the morning and thank Him at night. Notice what these verses says:

[16] Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; [17] Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.[18] Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. [19] If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: [20] But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Verse 16

- 1. Wash you, make you clean: We cannot come to God with evil.**
- 2. Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes;**
- 3. Cease to do evil:**

Verse 17

- 4. Learn to do well: (Learn what is right with God.)**
- 1. seek judgment, seek Justice, relieve the oppressed, or correct oppression, judge the fatherless, or do justice by the fatherless plead for the widow or stand up and defend the widows.**

Do we really want Divine Guidance? Do we really want to serve the Lord this year? If we are going to, then we must pray and seek God's will and be willing to do it.

III. LET US PRAY FOR PROPER PURPOSE. What is our purpose in Life? The Bible teaches that God blesses His people in order that they might be a blessing to others. This is the central theme in many places. We are to be a blessing to others by showing them the plan of salvation.

IV. LET US PRAY FOR AN UNSAVED TOWN, STATE, NATION, WORLD. We need only listen to the news and read the papers to know that our world is a sinful world. Jesus told us to go and teach all nations. Matthew 28:18-20

V. LET US PRAY FOR THE HOMES OF THIS CONGREGATION.

Our Witness for Christ in the world can rise no higher than the quality of our Christian life at home. We must live the life at home, that we do in Church.

VI. WE NEED TO PRAY FOR PERSONAL DEDICATION.

Are we willing to meet the needs and are we willing to pray? Are we willing to let the glory of the Lord filled this building? It is up to us.

If we want the glory of the Lord to fill us, fill this building, the house of the Lord, then we must dedicate ourselves to serving and praying as God would have us to pray.

As we continue to deal with Covid-19, much will happen this year that we will face including Covid-19, but we need to stay true to God and stay in prayer.

Today, January 2 as you pray, pray for your church, your pastor, and yourself that all of you will seek out and serve God better this year than last year.

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