Daily Devotional, January 1, 2021

"All Things Have Become New", (2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Welcome to a new year! Most of us tend to look forward to new things, new opportunities, new horizons, and so forth. For some of us, in some areas, the old has not been all that great. For others, nostalgic feelings hearken us back to the good old days. Do not forget those days, but recognize that you live in them no longer. Whatever place we are in, may we all resolve to find a new start spiritually this year.

For me, a lot of "things have become new." Having read through the Bible twice last year, my wife and I begin reading through it again this year. Every year, there is a new seminary level class to prepare and teach to the brilliant students (my brother calls them the "Navy Seals") of God's Word at Firm Foundation. Each year, at the church and personally, there is a new schedule, and a new resolve to redouble efforts to convert the lost.

"Old things have passed away." Let us learn from and acknowledge, but not dwell on, the happenings of yesterday. "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matthew 6:34). Maybe you have fallen prey to sin in yesteryear. Take the fresh start that the calendar, and more importantly, Christ Jesus, has given you, "knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin" (Romans 6:6).

Would you like to come to God through Christ today for the first time and start the new year off right? Are you a Christian in need of a fresh start? Have you had a good spiritual year, and you want the Lord to fan the flames of personal godly revival in your heart? Know this first, that "there is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit" (Romans 8:1). "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Happy New Year! Let's make this year the Year of Revival!