



F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ JANUARY 2018 ❖

NEW YEAR

What the new year brings us will depend a great deal on what we bring to the new year.

Your New Year Will Be Brighter

If you make an effort to:

Face your problems with courage.

Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the LORD.

Psalm 31:24

Forget an old grudge.

You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:18

Examine yourself.

But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

Galatians 6:4

Be Thankful.

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1Thessalonians 5:18

Pray for others as well as yourself.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

James 5:16

Encourage someone who has stumbled.

Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

Show someone you love them.

Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

1 John 3:18

Share the Good News.

Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.

Acts 8:4

CHURCH-LIFE

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13:35

Congregations are composed of members from various backgrounds. This would seem to impose a great challenge to congregational unity and harmony. It needn't be. With God-given directions, it is possible for all members to develop the qualities which demonstrate love and promote oneness.

Honesty

Have a good and honest heart that readily accepts the Word. Luk.8:15
Be up-front in dealings with each other. Eph.4:25
Be truthful in what is said (but don't be “brutally frank”).
Make an honest self-appraisal, and fair and accurate appraisal of others. Gal.6:3

Humility

Be humble in spirit. 1Pe.3:8-9
Be courteous (courtliness and dignity). 1Ti.2:1-2
Be polite, mannerly (showing consideration for others). Tit.3:2
Be not demanding, rather make requests. Phm.8-14

Toleration

Make allowances for personal differences.
Be patient with immature and struggling members. 1Th.5:14-15
Handle others as we wish to be handled. Mat.7:12

Praise

Make frequent expressions of recognition of another's worth or work.
There is nothing wrong and everything right with praise.
It is a misconception that praise should come *only* from God. Rom.2:29, 1Co.4:5
While we should not seek the praise of others, we need not fear it.

Gratitude

Being grateful is an expression of thankfulness. Luk.17:17
Words of thanks convey the worth attributed to favors and kindnesses received.

Admission of error

Admitting faults sets the stage for the needed correction.
Owning up to mistakes and seeking forgiveness allows other to forgive. Jam.5:16
Confession of wrongdoing to God results in forgiveness. 1Jo.1:9

Forgiveness

Members need to be ready to forgive those who seek forgiveness. Eph.4:32
It allows a brother sister to be restored back into close fellowship. 2Co.2:7-8
Members are to have the spirit of Christ: “as God in Christ has forgiven you.”
Mistakes will be made, expect them. We must work to correct them. Gal 6:1
Once forgiven, the past needs to be forgotten (not brought to mind).

“So then let us pursue the things that make for peace and the building up of one another.”

Romans 14:19

Famous Hymn Histories



LOVE DIVINE

This hymn is a good example of not just putting words together for rhyming sake but teach us the doctrines of God. **Verse one** teaches about the birth of Christ. **Verse two** tells us that Jesus, the Alpha and Omega has the power to give us victory over sin. **Verse three** talks of the love of God having it's impact in each believer's life. **Verse four** speaks of our future, the day when we get our new glorified bodies and heaven is our home.

- ① Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
all Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- ② Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast!
May we all in Thee inherit,
may we find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning,
take our load of guilt away;
End the work of Thy beginning,
bring us to eternal day.
- ③ Come, Almighty to deliver,
may we all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
never more Thy temples leave;
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
glory in Thy perfect love.
- ④ Finish then Thy new creation;
pure and spotless may we be;
May we see our whole salvation
perfectly secured by Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

— Charles Wesley & John Zundel

BEEN THERE — DONE THAT
*Learning from the mistakes
and successes of others.*

And the woman [Bathsheba] conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am pregnant."
2 Samuel 11:5

David decided to coverup his transgression. But later he was confronted by the prophet, Nathan, who said: "You are the man!" who had relations with another man's wife and then had him killed in battle.

The 32nd Psalm describes his inner turmoil when he attempted to coverup his sins:

A Psalm of David. How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered! How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit! When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah.

Psalm 32:1-5

ATTEMPTING TO HIDE SIN ONLY MAKES MATTERS WORSE

When agonizing with the thought that a sin "may be found out," two avenues are open: (1) attempt to cover it up with lies and deception (or worse), or (2) own it and face the consequences. The first option only compounds the problem, the second option may be painful and humbling, but it is far better.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9



Ponder This

RULES FOR FAILURE *(and how to break them)*

Find fault with others; Overlook your own.

*Recognize your own faults;
see the good in others.*

Expect maximum results from minimal effort.

*Give maximum effort to achieve
maximum results.*

Talk against those you don't like and those who don't like you.

*Refrain from talking against others;
don't listen to or pass on gossip.*

Procrastinate

*Seize every opportunity; make the most of your
time.*

Wait for the Perfect Time

Do it now and deal with the difficulties.

Be honest only when necessary; be friendly only to one's face.

Be open, honest, and truthful.

Be loyal only if it serves your purpose.

Be loyal always.

Be a "know-it-all."

*Seek to know; admit ignorance
if you don't know.*

Success Cheers the Heart; Failure Produces Sorrow and Regret.

Ancestors

Today, we are able to trace our "roots" using the various sites available on the internet. The "electronic age" has made such research possible.

In years past such records had to be maintained by family members. During Old Testament times detailed records of one's ancestry were meticulously recorded by the Israelites. Thus, Jesus ancestry was recorded and could be easily researched.

The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah is found in two places in the New Testament: Matthew's account in chapter 1, verses 1-17, and Luke's account in chapter 3, verses 23-38.

Also, the genealogies of the Israelites were very important during the year of Jubilee when, among other things, property rights were to be restored.

JUBILEE

"You shall have the fiftieth year as a jubilee ... it shall be holy to you."

*Leviticus 25:11-12
[Full text verses 8-22]*

"Jubilee" is derived from the Hebrew, *jobel*, the joyful shout or clangor of trumpets, by which the Year of Jubilee was announced.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

On this year of jubilee each of you shall return to his own property (verse 13).

This law by which the right heir could never be excluded, was a provision of great wisdom for preserving families and tribes perfectly distinct, and their genealogies faithfully recorded, in order that all might have evidence to establish their right to the ancestral property.

- Excerpts from Smith's Bible Dictionary

[Note: How often and how careful the year of Jubilee was observed is not recorded.]

F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

Past Issues are archived at <http://ra10ar.com>

All rights reserved. © 2018