

It's New Year's Eve... again

My dear friends:

Some see the dawn of a new year, as another chance. Another chance to "do better". Another chance to reach my ideal weight; another chance to read through the whole Bible in a year; another chance to fix up my house; another chance to get out of debt; another chance to _____ (fill in the blank)...

Indeed, we serve the God of second chances... and third.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness", so says the Apostle John in his first letter; chapter 1, verse 9.

Jesus said, "... if your brother [he] sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times and says, 'I repent', you must forgive him." Luke 17:4 WOW! If that's the standard that God sets for my unforgiving heart, what must His standard be? You guessed it... infinite.

OK. It's New Year's Eve. If you want to make a resolution, go ahead. But know this. If you mess it up, God's not waiting til next New Year's Eve for you to turn to Him and say, "I repent". If you have to do it a hundred times a day, do it! And when you do, He is faithful and just to forgive you all your sins... AND... to cleanse you from all unrighteousness!

What does that mean, exactly?

It means that when the enemy of your soul tells you all about yourself, and reminds you of all your flaws, faults and failures, just call him what he is... the father of lies, in whom is no truth.

You, on the other hand, have been cleansed from all unrighteousness.

Wanna make a good resolution? Here's a good one... Resolve to believe God, and not the enemy. That'll do.

Go to Him. He will forgive and He will cleanse. Don't let the reality of your messed up self get in the way. The enemy will go to that well every time. Resolve to call him a liar and turn back toward God.

Pastor