

The Beginning of a New Year.

The beginning of January is always the time to think about the past, present, and future. Most of us can look back and say that any bad thing that happened last year is now in the past. This is a new year, we can start fresh with a clean slate. Even if we had a good year, many are hoping for an even a better year.

There are many good things that started for me in the month of January. I was born again in January 1973. I had gone to church all my life and lived as a good boy. But while reading a Christian book, I realized that all my righteousness are as filthy rags. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. I realized that Christ died for my sins. There alone in my room, I asked the Lord to forgive my sins and to become the Lord of my life. Wow, what a new beginning.

January 1982, I started talking to the Lord about love and marriage to a very attractive female.

In January 2015, I officially started New Heart Devotions. In the past ten years, I have published 266 devotions, outlined 1,715 Bible chapters, written five white papers and created six pages of jokes. The devotions are now sent out to over a thousand people weekly.

In January 2019, I started North Eastern York County History in Preservation. Since then, I have done 41 on-site talks, 6 field trips, 32 off-site talks, 13 history videos, 10 zoom sessions and received several awards. I also developed one of the largest <u>local history websites</u>.

Looking back at the previous year, I can say it was a good year. In May, my history group opened NeyChip History Center, with local high school students helping. We have seen over 100 visitors and have received large donations. Liberty University, where I graduated from 50 years ago, did an <u>alumni focus</u> on my life in November. But none of this is for my glory but rather for Christ.

None of us know what the new year will bring. Will there be peace or war? Will there be more natural disasters? Will there be a financial boom or bust? Will we be looking for the undertaker or the overtaker? Will our nation turn around for God?

This new year do not make resolutions and plans that you will not keep. Do not worry about what tomorrow could bring. Do not become discouraged.

A new year, a new start, and a clean slate can start in January or any month of the year. All it takes is telling the Lord, "From this day forward, I am yours. Cleans, guide and use me."



## Charles L Stambaugh

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor 5:17 & Gal 2:20

"I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God."



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