



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!
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David's Devotional Necessary Endings

Happy New Year! May God send His blessings in 2022!

We now begin a New Year (2022), but the old year (2021) had to end for this to happen!

If we want a "New Beginning", there must be some "Necessary Endings".

What is our New Year's Resolution? Lose weight? Then we must have some "necessary endings" of extra food, sweets, bread, etc. Perhaps we want to exercise more. If so, we must decide what things we will have to end to make time for this new thing!

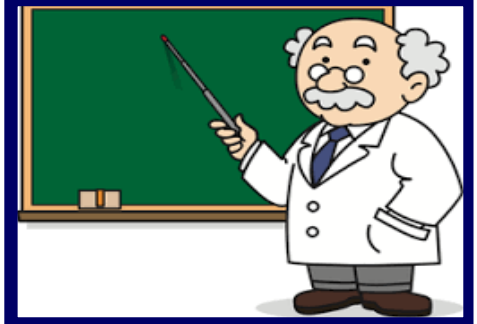
God wanted mankind to have a "New Beginning" when He gave us the New Testament. There was a "Necessary Ending" to the Old Testament. "... He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second." **Hebrews 10:9**

For us to have a "New Beginning" in Christ as a New Creature, we must have some "Necessary Endings". "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." **II Corinthians 5:17**

"That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye **put on** the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." **Ephesians 4:22-24**

Too many of us want to have a "New Beginning" this year yet we think we can hang on to the old things of the past! Before we think about our New Year's Resolution, spend time thinking about some of the "Necessary Endings" we need in our lives. Let's learn from Paul who said, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are **behind**, and reaching forth unto those things which are **before**," **Philippians 3:13**

David Conley



An Interesting Quote:

"No man knows how bad he is until he has tried very hard to be good" **C. S. Lewis**

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:" **Romans 3:10**

God is "good". If we aspire to be "good", we must be like God.

Of course, we can never be like God. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

Romans 3:23

However, we certainly should live godly! "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and **godly**, in this present world;"

Titus 2:12

Don't let our "badness" stop us from being "good"!

Did You Know?

Auld Lang Syne

Means

Old Long Ago or Times Gone By
 "Should old acquaintance be forgot
 And never brought to mind
 Should all acquaintance be forgot
 And auld lang syne"

"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets."

Hebrews 1:1 (ESV)

Let's never forget auld lang syne!

What Happened?

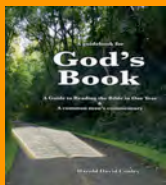
One Day Gospel Meeting!



We had Dr. David Lipe back with us at Liberty Church of Christ for a ONE DAY Gospel Meeting! It was so good to see him and listen to him teach.

Between the Morning Worship and Evening Worship we got together and enjoyed a meal. It was time well spent with those we love! Let's love each other more!

John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (KJV)



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"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:1



Just Say What It Is!

At Rhodesville School the 1st & 2nd grade were taught in the same classroom.

Mrs. Hoffeburt was the teacher. I don't know if that's how to spell her name, but that's how it sounds to me. Her husband taught the 5th & 6th grade. He was also the principle. Does anyone know them?

I was in the 1st grade and Mrs. Hoffeburt had given us some work to do. She was teaching the 2nd grade on the other side of the room. I needed to go to the bathroom, so I raised my hand. That's what we were taught to do if we needed permission for something. She had asked a particularly hard question that I'm sure only the 2nd graders were capable of answering. Mrs. Hoffeburt was impressed when she saw my hand in the air. "David," she began with great delight, "would you like to answer the question?"

My mind raced as all eyes turned onto me! I had three choices: I could say nothing and sit down which would do great damage to my bladder, this was not an option! I could attempt to answer the question which would do great damage to my intellect, but I couldn't even remember the question. I could simply ask to go to the bathroom which would do great damage to my ego since everyone was expecting so much from me.

It would make her so proud if I could answer the question. All those second graders would be humiliated to have a first grader give the correct answer! Surely I could come up with something. I opened my mouth and asked to go to the bathroom! Laughter followed me out the door as I excused myself.

God gives us this wisdom: *"If thou hast done foolishly in lifting up thyself, or if thou hast thought evil, lay thine hand upon thy mouth."* **Proverbs 30:32**

I am learning that, even if they laugh at you, rather than trying to impress someone or pretend to be something great it is better just to ask to be excused!
 David Conley

"There is a season"

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Jackson, MS has kept these records

for around 140 years. We learn that the normal high for our area is 56.4 degrees in December. Christmas day we were in the 70's, but the highest temperature was recorded in 2016 when it reached 79 degrees.

The lowest temperature was in 1983 at 21 degrees.

That was the lowest "High" temperature. The lowest "Low" temperature was also in 1983 at 7 degrees!

However, just the year before, in 1982, the lowest "Low" temperature was 68 degrees!

Some people teach that we will have no seasonal differences at the end of time. They say we will not be able to tell Summer from Winter. This is simply not in the Bible! In fact, the OPPOSITE is in the Bible:

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." **Genesis 8:22**

God set the seasons up and there is nothing we can do to change that!

"Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter." **Psalms 74:17**

"And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" **Genesis 1:14**

Man was given "dominion" over everything (Genesis 1:26). He was told to "keep" it (Genesis 2:15) and take care of it. We should care for our environment and not pollute or poison it, however, do not allow the "Global Warming" or "Climate Change" alarmists to make us think we are stronger than God!

David Conley

High Temperature			
Location	Normal	Warmest Years	Coldest Years
Jackson Airport	56.4°F	80°F (2015) 80°F (1942) 79°F (2016) 78°F (1954) 77°F (1944) 77°F (1922)	21°F (1983) 30°F (1985) 34°F (1910) 35°F (1990) 38°F (2004/1900/1924)

Low Temperature			
Location	Normal	Warmest Years	Coldest Years
Jackson Airport	36.1°F	70°F (1987) 68°F (1982) 67°F (2015) 64°F (1942) 63°F (1914)	7°F (1983) 13°F (1985) 14°F (1980) 19°F (1990) 21°F (1989)

A Funny Thing Happened ...



The preacher watched a boy run from the cornfield onto the gravel road. He could not help but notice his feet. He had only one shoe! "Hey, son" The preacher called out, "Did you lose a shoe?" The boy grinned widely and replied, "No Sir! I found one!"

The preacher thought to himself, *"The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth."* **Psalms 107:42**

The preacher understood this good boy was HAPPY with his positive circumstance, but he, like so many others, only saw the negative side! The boy's response left the preacher speechless!