

Measured by Years

by Welcome Detweiler

The sermon emphasizes the importance of trusting in God's goodness and faithfulness, especially in the new year, and encourages listeners to become children of God by receiving Christ.

Duration: 10:52

Scripture: Genesis 28:15, Psalm 118:24, John 1:12, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:8

Topics: "Promise"

Description

The sermon transcript discusses the importance of accepting Jesus Christ as one's Savior. It emphasizes that our own strength and efforts cannot validate our salvation, but rather it is through receiving Jesus and believing in his name that we can become children of God. The transcript highlights the consequences of living a life independent of God and the need for constant awareness of our need for a divine Savior. It encourages listeners to reflect on their own lives and consider the significance of accepting Jesus and living in accordance with God's will.

Transcript

We have just entered another year, and it should certainly be, with notes of praise and thanksgiving on our lips and in our hearts, a time to explain how good it is that God we adore, our faithful, unchangeable friend, whose love is as great as his power, and flows neither measure nor end. This Jesus, the first in the land, whose Spirit shall guide us, take hold. We'll praise him for all that is past, and thank him for all that's to come.

It seems as though the beginning of a new year always makes us think of some things which we do not think about so seriously at any other time of the year. First of all, it reminds us of the fact that our lives are measured by years, and while no exact number of years are obvious to men, still the scriptures say that the days of our years are three-fourth years of the year, and if by reason of strength they be four-fourth years, yet it is their strength, labor, and power that it is through whom thoughts are on, and we are aware. So the beginning of a new year marks some sort of milestone in our journey from times in which we travel.

I suppose there have been times when all of us have wished that we knew what would be ahead in the new year, but God, who always has our good in mind, has not been pleased to reveal all the details regarding our pathway during the coming year, and I am sure that this would give little problem to know. The third question takes us to New Year Wisconsin, knowing that he who is for us is greater than he who is against us. Many precious promises in the line who are the foundation of the news of this instant trend.

I want to remind you of at least one of these precious promises, God through whose truth we have met in you, through our souls, And, behold, I will be with thee, and will keep thee till thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land, for I will not leave thee until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of. This comment was made to Jacob by the God of heaven at a time when Jacob was just about to begin a new year, or at least a new era in his life. Jacob's title means an angel.

This promise was not given as a result of Jacob's obedience to God, but rather because God caught an occasion to show his grace to the undeserved. If God willed the best of those who deserve the best, clearly anyone would be best. God seems to have said he is letting the least deserve, for it is a magnificent grace.

This promise, I will be with thee, and will keep thee in all places, till thou goest, may be claimed by every child of God for the coming years. The claiming of this promise removes all fears and forebodings, and the blessed knowledge of God's being is present. Believer marches into the days, the weeks, the months, and other years with a peace of mind which is so necessary in these days of outward stress and stress.

I must remind you that this promise is made to Christians exclusively. No unsafe one can claim this promise. In the sharp contrast to the Christian, the unsafe one must face the future alone, without God, without Christ, having no promise of his presence.

Utterly alone. Spiritual ponderers are unsafe ones who stress the thruster of life, the long days of unrest, a year, a long time to live, especially when God is ignored, and his blessed son is rejected. Anyone who attempts to live independent of God is asking for a dull year.

You have already experienced many of these. It is absolutely necessary to continue in a course that you honestly admit does not favor the satisfaction you desire. No practice would more properly engage your meditation than this one.

Shall I continue to live in the same manner as before, without being saved? Focusing on the method consciousness of the Savior's divine presence each moment of the day, sitting continually in danger, being lost for all eternity, annoyed by the anxious fear of death? Is this life? Will I someday regret that all my days were spent away from God? Or, shall I begin a new year with undesirable hope of death, that I might come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as my own personal Savior and Lord? God will surely recognize the unsincere desire of anyone who accomplishes this. Some of you will have to admit that the reason you are not saved is because you have never told God that you wanted to be saved. You may always be mindful of this, that while yours is a ship that is passing on the waves of a troubled sea, without a tarp, without a cap, you might be enjoying the settled calm and peace of sailing with Christ on a helm, reminding you daily, I am with thee, and will keep thee, till thou go, I will not leave thee.

The Christian has a share of sorrow, disappointment, and sadness, which almost overwhelms us all, but the knowledge of how my present Savior authorized the Christian to the extent that he can actually thank God for all things, even those things which seem so uncertain to the flesh. The Christian has proved the faithfulness of God not only during the days of smooth sailing, but also in the days of adversity, during such days of testing of how the God is sustained by the sympathy, the compassion, the comfort, and the grace of a wonderful Savior. The unsaved one has no one to turn to while passing through similar experiences.

He must either collapse, or resort to taking cruel suggestions, Flutter your troubles by thinking deeper into sin, which will deepen more troubles, unsafe and unique facts, in view of the days of trouble, of which you may expect a certain share in new years. You may even be inviting days of trouble by your willful rejection of the Savior. Many have witnessed the fact that days of extreme sorrow and grief were used by God to awaken the suffering souls, bringing them to acknowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

A reasonable question may arise in your mind, how can I become a child of God, so that I may be able to claim the presence of Christ during the unimportant years? To answer this important question, we are not permitted to project our own opinions, the correctness of our own theories, knowing that God is the only safe source to find the answer. In the psalm of the Convert to Israel, the answer is given in a simple form. For as many as receive him, so then they hate all the sons and daughters of God, shun to them that would be on his name.

There is no foundation of heart and strength, but condition is the only condition. It is as many as receive him. In other words, there must be a different moment when the sinner confesses before God that he is lost, and that he is ready to accept or receive the man who has been placed in death and died as a substitute to satisfy the claims of the holy God.

As many as receive him, so then they take power to become the sons of God. I tried many times to become a child of God by promising God that I would live a good ten months, but I never became a child of God on that day. For a bankrupt sinner is not in a position to promise God anything.

Others have tried to become children of God by working for God, as if it would be a clean fiber. But, as they say, they never become children of God on that day. To receive Christ and enter into the good of his accomplished redemption is the one and only way that anyone can become a child of God.

To receive him means eternal life. To defect to receive him means eternal death. Whatever choice you may make, during the early days of the new year, none can bring to you more satisfaction than to receive him, which makes you the possessor of eternal life.

Then, you may immediately claim the promise made to Jacob, I am with thee, and will keep thee withers of gold. You know that nothing can happen in the new year, but what has been planned by God for my good at this world gives peace and lasting satisfaction. I do not know what awaiteth me at dawn another year.

The path untrodden I cannot see, yet knows my heart still fear. Though dark the path may be, or night, or smooth, or rugged way, I ever shall be led right while I for guidance pray. I do not know whether short or long, I listen to thee.

I'll daily praise my Lord in song for all his love to me. Let the years shall longer go, and day by day be mine. I'll seek to lead from treasure to treasure, to thank the great divine.

My God shall be my strength and steady while journeying here below. He was upon my knee all day, his word assures me well. With joy I speak the opening year.

It cannot bring me ill, since I, my Lord, will ever heal. My soul will keep the healing. We ask thee, precious Father, to send God's word every listening month in addition to the call of Jesus.

Amen.

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