



A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT
January 2008
“NEW”

A new year – new beginnings, new goals, new hopes and dreams. A new year of our potential released (by God), our Godly desires increased (by God), a year of anticipation and expectation! A year of growth, success, and going forward in the Lord and in His ways. No one is planning on failure in this new year. We all desire the NEW. There are new ways of thinking, new ways of perceiving God, others, and even ourselves. There are new ways of experiencing God!

The word NEW is defined as follows: lately made or produced; come into being; not known before; recently discovered; recently produced by change (as a new life); fresh, not stale, used up or stagnant (American Dictionary of the English Language – Noah Webster 1828).

God Himself gives us reason to rejoice when He says *“Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it?”* (Isaiah 43:19 AMP) The same Scripture in the Message Paraphrase says, *“Forget about what’s happened; don’t keep going over the old history. Be alert, be present. I’m about to do something brand-new. It’s bursting out! Don’t you see it?”*

It is God’s desire and will that we walk in newness of life. *“We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a NEW life.”* (Romans 6:4 NIV) The same Scripture in the Living Bible says, *“Your old sin-loving nature was buried with Him by baptism when he died, and when God the Father, with glorious power, brought him back to life again, you were given his wonderful NEW life to enjoy.*

“ ... now you can really serve God; not in the old way, mechanically obeying a set of rules, but in the NEW way, (with all of your hearts and minds (Roman 7:6 LB).

Whether we know or realize it – according to Scripture we are NEW! *“When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand NEW person inside. He is not the same anymore. A NEW life has begun! (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Amplified Bible says, “Therefore, if any person is (engrafted) in Christ (the Messiah) he is a NEW creation (a new creature altogether); the old (previous moral and spiritual condition) has passed away. Behold, the fresh and NEW has come!”*

We need to love the Word, respond to it, and do it. We can go as far as we want to in God, we can have as much of Him as we desire. Our life in God is always by CHOICE and DECISION daily – and this will add up to a life well-lived that brings the Lord much glory & praise. The following Scripture detail our part, our responsibility and our privilege. We are not alone in this. Christ is within us, He who is called the hope of Glory! With our choices and decisions there will come an enabling and empowering by His Holy Spirit to do – as the Word is formed in you and becomes a part of you!

What do you think – about the Lord, about yourself, about this life you have in Him (your responsibilities, rights and privileges)? What do you think about your commitment level, about caring for others, about His promises to you? What do you think about where you are in God and what comes next? It all starts in the mind. After telling us to make a decisive dedication of our bodies to God (Romans 12:1 NIV) then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 LB says, *“Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a NEW and different person with a fresh NEWNESS in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you.”* Romans 12:2 AMP says, *“... be transformed (changed) by the (entire) renewal of your mind (by its NEW ideals and its new attitude....”*

You are who the word says you are and you can do what the word says you can do. Ephesians 4:22-24 NIV states, *“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made a NEW in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the NEW self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”* Ephesians 4:23,24 LB says, *“Now your attitudes and thoughts must all be constantly changing for the better. Yes, you must be a NEW and different person, holy and good. Clothe yourself with this NEW nature.”* Colossians 3:10 LB says, *“You are living a brand NEW life that is continually learning more and more of what is right, and trying constantly to be more and more like Christ who created this NEW life within you.”* 1 Corinthians 2:16 says, *“We have the mind of Christ.”* The Living Bible says, *“But strange as it seems, we Christians actually do have within us a portion of the very thoughts and mind of Christ.”* Philippians 2:5 says, *“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...”*

God continually gives us the fresh and the new. Every day is a new day. (a gift from Him); and we are blessed with new mercies every morning (Lamentations 3:22,23 RSV) That is just the beginning. We have a fresh and new start every day. When we sin and repent He gives us new start. He gives us fresh and new revelation of who He is as we seek Him. He is always showing us new ways of doing things, new ways of approaching situations, new ways of responding to others, new expressions of His love and care for us.

We, as women of God, are sensitive, open, and have hearts of compassion. He has made us what we are and with purpose. We will find “NEWNESS” as we soak ourselves in His Word – loving it, believing it, doing it, demonstrating it, and sharing it for the good and blessing of others. We will be “*constantly renewed in the spirit of our minds and have a fresh mental and spiritual attitude.*” Ephesians 4:23 AMP) And He (alone) will be glorified!

No matter what has been, God wants the NEW for you. We will cooperate with Him, yield to Him, surrender to Him – knowing He is good and only does good in and through us. You are His! What a year this will be!

“I have it all planned out – plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for.” Jeremiah 29:11 The Message

“I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.” John 10:10 The Message

Great Peace & Joy be Yours ~
Toni Quinn
“For His Glory” Women’s Ministry

