

### ALL THINGS NEW?

December 28, 2011

We have reached the time of year when many people want a new beginning. There is nothing wrong with wanting a new beginning, if it something that we have the capability of making new.

All people have the opportunity, if they choose, to search out the truth, to start new spiritually. The apostle Paul reminded the Roman brethren how they had made a new start. He said, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:3-4).

Aside from our spiritual re-birth, much in this life remains the same. We can always improve in most areas of life, but there are some basic things that never change. In fact, the wise man said, “The thing that hath been, it *is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is that* which shall be done: and *there is* no new *thing* under the sun” (Ecc. 1:9).

At the heart of our greatest problem lies one constant: sin. Man’s greatest problem is sin and has been from almost the beginning of time (Gen. 3). Paul also reminded the Roman brethren about this very fact when he said, “For the wages of sin *is* death...” (Rom. 6:23).

Man’s greatest enemy has never changed. Satan was the source of man’s first temptation to sin in the garden and has been ever since. Peter warned us of Satan’s dedication to our destruction when he described him as a, “...roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8).

Man’s only hope for eternal salvation is still Christ Jesus. Though two periods of law passed prior to His coming, it still took His blood to save those that came before. We have all recited that wonderful verse that says, “**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life**” (Jn. 3:16). The Hebrews writer also penned, “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins” (Heb. 10:4), and that is the reason He had to come!

At the time of judgement, in order for any man to be found worthy to enter the paradise of heaven, he must be found faithful, and that has never changed. No matter what period of time under which one has ever lived, he had to be faithful in order to please God. John told us, “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 Jn. 1:7). After having obeyed the gospel, walking in the light is the only choice if heaven is our desire.

There are things we can change in this life, but there are some things that never have nor ever will change. Our greatest problem, our greatest enemy, our only hope for salvation, and the only way to please God have always remained the same. It is a new year and an excellent time (now, today, without delay!) to dedicate or re-dedicate our lives to God!