



The Country Courier

News from The Sower's Chapel

January 2023

BEHOLD I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

No year will ever be quite like the one before. So, here at the beginning of 2023, we might wonder what new and different things are to come. No doubt there will be unexpected challenges. More importantly, there will be fresh new opportunities. To the Lord, these future things never come as a surprise. He has perfect foresight. And, because He sees the future with absolute clarity, we can place both our hopes and our concerns into His hands. Consider what we are taught in Secrets of Heaven 8455:

Peace holds within itself trust in the Lord, the trust that He governs all things and provides all things, and that He leads towards an end that is good.

This message is intended to bring confidence. While we can't know the details of the year that lies ahead, we can know that the Lord is working to ensure that the net outcome of 2023 will be good. Most importantly, He will use this year, as He used 2022, to lead us a little closer to Him and His heaven.

At the conclusion of His Word, in the Book of Revelation, He presents a picture of the future, doing so in the form of the holy city, New Jerusalem. The descent of that city into human lives comes with the comforting news that, "Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:5)

Because the Lord has promised this, we can look at any negative life experiences as things that can and should be left in the past. The future is all that matters to the Lord. Therefore, the present and the future can start to become the only things that matter to us.

2023 is a new year. It is filled with endless possibilities. One of the most important things is the potential for renewed optimism. Following the words quotes above from Secrets of Heaven, we find this:

When a person believes these things about Him [that the Lord always leads toward good outcomes], he or she is at peace, since they then fear nothing and no anxiety about things to come disturbs them. How far a person attains this state depends on how far they attain love to the Lord.

Simply put, the Lord, our Heavenly Father Jesus Christ, asks us to love Him and to have faith. He has everything under control. This means that we can look forward to the new year being something truly wonderful.

- Garry

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

A congregation such as ours cannot run without a great deal of volunteer help. Almost everyone in the congregation has given of themselves in the past year to ensure that we continue to serve the Lord and each other with love and kindness. I will not try to list all the volunteer activities that people have been involved in. Hopefully it is enough to say that I notice all the things that you do, both large and small. My heart is filled with gratitude.

- Garry

JANUARY 2023 CALENDAR EVENTS

Jan 3: 1 pm - Bible Study @ 1833 Coffee (Gen 21)
No Pastor's Council this month

Jan 8: De-decorate after church

Jan 10: 1 pm - Bible Study @ 1833 Coffee (Gen 22)
7 pm - Board of Trustees

Jan 15: Holy Supper during worship service

Jan 17: 1 pm - Bible Study @ 1833 Coffee (Gen 23)

Jan 24: 1 pm - Bible Study @ 1833 Coffee (Gen 24)

Jan 31: 1 pm - Bible Study @ 1833 Coffee (Gen 25)

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