

# Happy Renew Year

## The Cliche of a New Year

Cliche: a phrase or opinion that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought  
Stereotype

## New year, new you

I have a feeling, the idea of New Year and the resulting hope, anticipation and celebration is a bit cliché in and of itself as of late

top ten lists

trends from last year

trends for the new year

nostalgia, hope, **lifting of burdens**

Hitting the gym ... ash and I got a membership years ago, went once. They cancelled our membership out of pity and didn't try to collect past-due fees

**The culture keeps saying the past year of culture/society was a bad year and hoping the next year would be better...but it's not, and it won't be**

**364 days down. 1 to go...and it's a Monday**

## *Ecclesiastes 7:8*

***Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit than the proud in spirit.***

## *2 Corinthians 5:17*

***Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

## New Year's Eve Traditions

*Vegas now trying to match NYC*

*I wouldn't want to be in either place normally, let alone on NYE night*

## New Year's Eve

- Ball dropping
- fireworks
- Reflections
- Late-Night Partying
- Family- Gatherings

- Feasting
- Present Exchanges

*NYE before being a believer...party like it's 1999*

*NYE in the early days of being a believer...church parties, worship nights, game nights with friends*

## People looking for a brand new start,

a brand new them in the new year,

and they hope that the year itself will bring it - prosperity, health, happiness

- Diets in the new year (work, marketing, frozen yogurt)
- Personal promises to stop doing things or start doing things
- **Wanting to forget the past year**

**[Isa 1:18-20 NKJV] 18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; 20 But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.**

**[Heb 8:10-13 NKJV] 10 "For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 11 "None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. 12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." 13 In that He says, "A new [covenant]," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.**

**But what happens every year?**

the same thing

**"A Christian is not somebody who has said, 'I need to do something about my life.' A Christian is someone who has made the wonderful discovery that God has done something amazing in his life." - Alistair Begg**

## What the Bible says about new years

Jewish Calendar has two new years

1. Religious - Nisan - March 15 - ~ 14th Passover (~ March 29)
2. Civil - Month of Tishri - around September 15, Day of Atonement on 10th day (~ sep 25)

**Passover**

Exodus 12:1-14, 21-28

v11 The LORD's passover - not the israelites, but the Lord.

He's the one doing the judgment, he's the one who's willing to passover their sins if they want it

v27 - anything covered by the blood was saved

**Day of Atonement** - the ONE day a year the high priest could enter into God's presence and offer a sacrifice for the people for their forgiveness

**Leviticus 16**

High priest would take two goats and a bull.

The bull was sacrificed for his sin and his family

**One goat would be chosen by lots to be the scapegoat -**

one would be an alive offering that was allowed to go free, but to go into the wilderness - in a sense to carry the sins away out of sight and mind

The other was sacrificed to God and his blood was sprinkled on the ark of the covenant, incense was to fill and cover the mercy seat that the priest wouldn't die.

**Leviticus 23:26 - 32**

**And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:**

**"Also the tenth [day] of this seventh month [shall be] the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.**

**And you shall do no work on that same day, for it [is] the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God.**

**For any person who is not afflicted [in soul] on that same day shall be cut off from his people.**

**And any person who does any work on that same day, that person I will destroy from among his people.**

**You shall do no manner of work; [it shall be] a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.**

**It [shall be] to you a sabbath of [solemn] rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth [day] of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath."**

**Psalm 103:12**

As far as the east is from the west, [So] far has He removed our transgressions from us.

**God's desire is to take our sins away, all our failures, shortcomings, screw ups and to give us a new life.**

*resurrection...*

**He also desires to protect us from the judgment and painful end that our sin brings.**

He made sure that the Israelites remembered this every New Year.

**Romans 8:28-39**

**Nothing you've done, or has happened, or will happen in your life can separate you from the love of God.**

**Unless you want it to.**

**God always makes a way back.**

It's so important to Him, he had two celebrations throughout the year to remind His people

**Christmas & Easter**

Jesus' birth to be God with us - Immanuel

Easter - Jesus' death and life so we can be with Him - made new

**What was your past year like?**

Been a blur

At work, had a department year-in-review...couldn't even remember before June. We were very busy this year professionally, and personally...the move out here.

## **Did you accomplish what you wanted? Did you see all that God wanted done in your life?**

### **Would you rather forget last year? The last ten years?**

Was it a good year? Was it a bad year?  
If it was a good year, do you want a better year?

### **Ecclesiastes 7:8**

**Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit than the proud in spirit.**

### **When things are finished, good or bad, it's always better than the beginning.**

- The beginning can be exciting,
- it's new, it's fun,
- but the end is better.

You've hopefully learned something, gotten to know somebody, gotten through something, stronger.

Even if it's bad - when it's over, it's over. Now instead of having to go through it, it's time to recover.

### **Christian, Don't be tempted to look back.**

**It's not better...that's why you left it or them...or it or them left you  
And the Lord found you there**

### **Ecclesiastes 7:10**

**Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" For you do not inquire wisely concerning this**

It's not wise.

**You'll probably never figure it out.**

and you could end up missing out on the things in your life now.

### **How do you want your new year to be?**

**Have you asked God for what His plans are yet for your new year?**

**I guarantee they're better than anything you've imagined.**

**Deut 31:6**

**Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."**

**Joshua 1:5**

**No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.**

**Hebrews 13:5-6**

**[Let your] conduct [be] without covetousness; [be] content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." [fn]**

**So we may boldly say: "The LORD [is] my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"**

## **So we may boldly say.**

**Can we boldly say Jesus is my helper.**

**We don't need the things of this life to make us happy, even if they're good things, we just need God to be our helper.**

*Past year of needs being met...even just getting here physically*

**Has God given you any word?**

**Bible verse just for you?**

**for the new year, for things coming up in your life?**

**Ask Him.**

**It doesn't have to be just on January 1.**

**Lamentations 3:22-23**

**This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope.**

**[Through] the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.**

**[They are] new every morning; Great [is] Your faithfulness.**

**\* There is hope for your new year,  
because there is mercy available each day**

*Encourage to spend time at the beginning of your day - as soon as you wake up - with the Lord.*

**Want a new year? You need to let God **renew it.****

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

**Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

**[Joe 2:25-29 NKJV] 25 "So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. 26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the LORD your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame. 27 Then you shall know that I [am] in the midst of Israel: I [am] the LORD your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame. 28 "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on [My] menservants and on [My] maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.**

**Are you still doing the same old things you wish you didn't or wouldn't?**

**Do you want to continue in the things of God?**

- **It doesn't take resolutions, it takes repentance**
- **It doesn't take punishment, it takes forgiveness**
- **It doesn't take hard work, it takes being submissive to the Holy Spirit**

**It takes Jesus.**

**...repentance is the way people come to God, and the result is forgiveness of sins."  
"No, Lord, no one else is to blame, only I. This is the way I am - and I need help. This is where God will meet you."**

*"the Power of His Presence" Jan 1*

**Turn from the things that hold you down and turn to the one who'll lift you up!**

*"Where hope can hold the hand of sorrow, and we can walk into tomorrow.  
Where peace is found in the troubled days, and the joy of Jesus carries pain away.  
This is a new year, this is a new day, to rise, shine, lift up your eyes!  
This is a new year, this is a new day, to rise, shine, point the way to God's great Life"*

***Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof***

***Remember...you're already new...it's not what you do on tomorrow or Tuesday, it's what Jesus did for you two millenia ago***

***2 Corinthians 5:17***

***Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***