

HAPPY NEW YOU

Happy new you! I wonder? If I am the same person in 2016 that I was in 2015 how can the new year be much different? Many of us make New Year's resolutions only to break them. The only way you and I can be sure that we are going to have new lives is to become new people. This is what Christianity is all about – a new Birth, a new Life, a new You!

Let's examine the age old question, can human nature be changed? Some seek it through self effort-- improved education, better environment, wonder drugs or improved social services. These strategies have some value, but serious questions remain unanswered. We pridefully blame our problems on everything and everyone, except ourselves. Our inaccurate diagnoses eludes a cure.

Does filling the mind with facts fill the soul with faith? Does a better environment create a better character? Does a full pocketbook necessarily mean a full heart? Can you inject human personality with a strong dose of willpower or moral character?

The fact remains that some highly educated people have become our cleverest criminals. Some children with saints for parents turn out to be devils. Some of the richest people have been the most selfish and unfeeling. Obviously, we need something more- Power from Above!

In his book The Vigil, Harold Begbie tells the story of the notorious Dr. Blund of Bartown. He continually breaks the heart of his good wife with his drunkenness and debauchery. But the time comes when the prodigal doctor has deep regrets over wasted years. He recalls a verse, learned in his youth, about being "BORN AGAIN." As a family doctor he had often seen a newborn baby coming into this world with all of life ahead, nothing to regret. And in these words of Christ he saw the promise of such an experience a second time. As he pondered the third chapter of John's Gospel, with an open mind and heart, light entered his soul and he found both pardon and peace from God.

I personally can identify with Dr. Blund and all those who have turned to God with the most intense yearning for a new beginning. Perhaps you are one of those who claim to be searching for a fresh start for your life. The two most important days of your life are; the day you were born and the day when you discover why you were born. You were born so that you could be spiritually reborn, "To know God and enjoy him forever."

Jesus said, "Except you are converted and become like little children, you shall not enter the kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 18:3). And the only way of becoming a little child once more is by being born again (John 3: 3,7,16).

It is the glory of the gospel of Christ that it offers that opportunity to every person living on planet earth. Happy New You!