LORD CHANGE MY ATTITUDE... ABOUT THE NEW YEAR!

Luke 2:25 - 38

KEY POINTS

- God loves "New"!
- We must believe God for the "New" in order to walk in it.
- We must replace the old with the new in order to walk in it.
- We must act upon what God reveals in order to walk in it.

GOD AND TIME.

- "What the clock says," not God. 2 Peter 3:8
- God's time series of sequential, ordered events appointed for God's purpose;
 - our impact free choice, good or bad.
 - Fall, Christ, Judgment, Millennium.
- God limits himself. No "doovers."

TIME IN SCRIPTURE

- A. Appointed times. Gen 18:14 (at the appointed time...), Ps 102:13, Acts 17:31, 2 Cor 6:2
 - Events, Feasts, Memorials, Seasons, Years.
- B. Fullness of time. Gal 4:4, Mark 1:15, Eph 1:10; Dan 9:24f
- C.Simeon's death old age or appointed event?

1. GOD LOVES "NEW."

- 2 Cor 5:17, John 3:3
- Eph 4:24, put on the new self...
- Is 43:19, ... I will do something new...make a roadway in the wilderness, a river in desert.
- Rev 21:5
- Creation: new day, new year, seasons.

 CAN OUR THINKING KEEP US CLOSED TO WHAT GOD WANTS TO DO "NEW" IN OUR LIVES?

A. Simeon:

- Light of revelation to Gentiles? V 32.
- Glory of Israel??
- B. What we believe and how we think will write the next year for us, the next day for us, the next door for us:
 - Prov 23:7a, "For as he thinks within himself, so he is. ...

WHY WERE AGED SIMEON AND ANNA CHOSEN BY GOD FOR THIS TRUTH?

- A. Believed God for the NEW.
- B. Believe God for His timing.
- C. Believed God in the knowledge that hard times were coming.

2. WE MUST BELIEVE GOD FOR THE NEW IN ORDER TO WALK IN IT.

- A. They gave God a blank sheet of paper.
- B. They looked for how He would fill it in and then took responsibility for their role in filling it in.

CHANGE IS OFTEN A PART OF THE NEW.

• Lk. 5:37-39 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins, and it will be spilled out, and the skins will be ruined. 38 "But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. 39 "And no one, after drinking old wine wishes for new; for he says, 'The old is good enough." (NAS)

3. WE MUST REPLACE THE OLD WITH THE NEW IN ORDER IN ORDER TO WALK IN IT.

- "Complaining is an attitude choice that if left unchecked will wither my capacity to experience joy and genuine thankfulness."
 - James McDonald, "Lord Change My Attitude before its too Late."

EPHESIANS 4:29

Let no unwholesome word
 [decayed, rotten, unusable]
 proceed from your mouth, but only
 such a word as is good for
 edification [building up] according
 to the need of the moment, that it
 may give grace [not condemnation]
 to those who hear.

4. WE MUST ACT UPON WHAT GOD REVEALS IN ORDER TO WALK IN IT.

• Eph. 5:14-16, For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you." 15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil. (NAS)

NEXT STEPS.

- A. Identify your top 3 personal complaints (consider only those you can control or do something about).
 - Set a strategy to resolve them, one by one.
- B. Have you established a personal habit of seeking God on a daily basis?
 - Set a strategy to begin this.

NEXT STEPS.

- C.Is there an area in your life that God is opening a door to something new?
 - Act on going through that door.