

CHIEF MINISTRIES

December 2011

Warmest Christmas Blessings to you!

What an incredible year! It certainly has flown by. I hope for you as well. I have to say, truthfully though, it has probably been one of the most difficult personally. Perhaps it simply because it's the 6th year for me, the devil's number, for you numerologists. Of course, that's too easy to point my finger at the devil. Sure, he's up to his sly old tricks, that life is simply an abundance of choices. *"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve" (Joshua 24:15).* As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord! So who's your Lord? Who's your God? Are you really on the Lord's side? Better yet, is He on yours? This is the time of year when the birth of our Lord is recognized by a date on our calendar. Of course, anyone with any Biblical sense knows the exact date or even month cannot be proved. At last count there were over 136 different opinions by biblical scholars as to the year and month He was born. What matters is that Immanuel – God with us – was born! Thank God! And his first recorded words in Scripture were to his mother and father saying basically, *"Why were you looking for me? Don't you know that I'd be in my Father's house, doing His business?"* Pretty smart for 12-year-old! He knew what it was that he was sent to do. Psalms 40:5–11 says, *"You have multiplied, O Lord, my God; Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts towards us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told. In sacrifice and offering You have not delighted, but You have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart. I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know. O Lord, I have not hidden my deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your steadfast love, or Your faithfulness from the great congregation. As for You, O Lord, You will not restrain Your mercy from me, Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness will preserve me!"* This prophecy of David's foretold of what Jesus would do. Are we not to try and do what Jesus did? We know what Jesus would do in situations that unfold in our lives every single day. What's most important is that we do what Jesus would do. Put our faith in action. But know this: Jesus, unfortunately, was crucified for His doings. If nobody is messing with you, I'd question that you're doing what you are supposed to! What did the Psalmist David say right after this prophecy? He knew how he felt, how Jesus would feel and what we would feel by doing His will. This sums up a large percentage of this past year for me. Verses 12–17 of Psalms 40. *"Be pleased. O Lord, to deliver me! O Lord, make haste to help me! Let those be put to shame and disappointed altogether who seek to snatch away my life; let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt! Let those be appalled because of their shame who say of me, "Aha, Aha!" But may all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!" As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer;"*

This year has been both wonderful and difficult at the same time. But do we understand, with God holding us in the palm of His hand, we're going to be taken care of? No matter what we go through, or have to handle or deal with, He's *got* us! He's got *you*! Trust him! Jump into the abyss with righteous abandon! Trust him! He's your great deliverer! Your strong defender! Blessed Redeemer! He would have come to be born of a virgin *just for you*! This season come and worship the King of Kings! The Lord of Lords, the Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father, the Son of God, the Holy One! Our future is bright with Him in it. Without Him, it's more of the same. I urge you to get to know Him in a new, fresh way this coming year, starting right now!

A prayer: My Lord and my God, how could I forget your tremendous love and care. That you've created me to be a living example of Your goodness and unfathomable love. It's no surprise that You find me repenting and pouring out myself at your feet. To worship You is the greatest gift You could receive from me other than my being. Take me and accept this offering of praise which I give to You from a heart of love. You're worthy of everything great and wonderful. So I offer my life to You right here and now once again... Thankful that You came to love me and help me and bless me and my family. You are a Great God! Help me this coming year to be more like you! To be able to do what You did, but even greater things, as You promised. I'm ready for more of You! I'm on your side and I know You are on mine. Amen...

Men of God, don't give up! And don't give in! The best things are yet to come! Even though they serve pork noodle again, or they take away one of our daily meals. Commissary skips my building for some unknown reason or my parole was denied; though every hypocrite in the unit seems to darken the door of the church, and I'm judged by wolves in sheep's clothes... *"Yet will I praise Him and rejoice in the Lord, I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; He makes my feet like the deer's; He makes me tread on high places."* (Habakkuk 3:18, 19)

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!

Your brother in Christ,

Chief

If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to www.chiefministries.com coming soon www.chiefshouse.org

Christ's

Heart

In

Every

Felon